

THE CRITIC,

A JOURNAL FOR READERS, AUTHORS, AND PUBLISHERS.

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JOURNAL OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

HISTORY.

Secret History of the Court and Government of Russia, under the Emperors Alexander and Nicholas. By J. H. SCHNITZLER. 2 vols. London, 1847.

M. SCHNITZLER has already written on this subject, but his revelations were partial; he wrote in fear or in favour, and told the truth, but not the whole truth. Some years since he was engaged in the Russian service, and he has since been suspected of having his pen in its pay. He strenuously repudiates the title of hireling; but from the tone of his books, there is, at least, fair ground for suspicion. Certainly, we should be slow to confide in his impartiality, and the reader is warned to peruse these volumes with an allowance for a bias on the part of the author, to use the mildest term.

But is it a book we can recommend to our readers? It is not. It has little interest for English readers. The subject does not excite the sympathies, nor does the treatment compensate for the dullness of the theme. It is tediously prosy. Trifles are elaborated with the ingenuity of a London newspaper reporter. This might be acceptable enough in Russia, but it will be a great objection to the book here; and being such, we cannot counsel its purchase, even for the book club, much less for the private library.

M. SCHNITZLER commences with an outline of the history of Russia up to the period at which he opens his narrative, the design of which is to develop the secret history of the conspiracy, which was formed in the reign of ALEXANDER, but did not explode until NICHOLAS ascended the throne, when it made a foolish outbreak at St. Petersburg, and was repressed with no great difficulty. The origin of that conspiracy was in the imprudent encouragement which ALEXANDER, in the earlier part of his reign, had himself given to doctrines that savoured of Liberalism beyond the point of civilisation and progress to which Russia had advanced. He was before his age and his people. When peace came, and he thought of practically applying his theories, he found the country unfitted for them. Then he retracted—discouraged the very sentiments he had been foremost to propagate; frowned at the Liberalism he had fostered, and, like all reactionists, perhaps, went further the other way than he had intended. But those who had been the echoes of his opinions, or their prompters, were not so ready to "turn their backs upon themselves." They were indignant; they refused to change even at the beck of an emperor. In a despotism angry people have no opportunity of ridding themselves of their anger by a foamy speech or a satirical "leading article;" they must smother it, if they can, in their own breasts. But anger will not always be put out by this process; often it burns the more fiercely for any attempt at repression. Hence, while in a free country it passes off in words or ink, in a despotism it explodes in conspiracy and bloodshed. So in Russia the irate Liberals had no resource but to concert a plot against the Emperor, who had deceived them by unfulfilled promises. They organised a rather formidable conspiracy, which found no favourable moment of action

during ALEXANDER's life, but was tempted by a combination of circumstances to try its fortunes against his successor.

It will be remembered that a short interval elapsed between the death of ALEXANDER and the accession of NICHOLAS, in consequence of CONSTANTINE, who was the legitimate successor, refusing the honours to which he was entitled. This was the time chosen for the explosion. The army in the South had been seriously tampered with, and was in a state of insubordination. But the conspirators had no plan. They were not agreed as to the object, or how it was to be sought. It was a sort of "run a muck" mania against royalty in general without any definite design to establish any other government if they should succeed in destroying that. As it was weakly begun, so it was ridiculously ended. They made an *émeute* in St. Petersburg, which was promptly and entirely suppressed; and although the state of the army in the South was more formidable, the firmness of General DIEBITSCH, who had obtained intelligence of their proceedings, prevented a catastrophe there. He separated the tainted regiments first, and when he had thus made concert impossible, he arrested the conspirator officers in detail. And there was an end of the plot; and this is the substance of Mr. SCHNITZLER's two volumes.

Here and there are passages of interest. Such is the

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR ALEXANDER.

On the morning of the 1st of December, the patient opened his eyes, and, though the power of speech was gone, he recognised all who stood around his bed. It may be conceived with what feelings Prince Volkonski and General Diebitsch, those faithful servants and attached friends of Alexander, watched his death-bed. The loss was irreparable to them, and its consequences to the empire were not easily to be calculated. This, however, was not their only subject of distress. Diebitsch was now in possession of a clue to the plot which had so long been weaving. Alexander was beyond the reach of the assassin's dagger; but he was not the only victim indicated by the revelations made to Diebitsch. It was necessary to act—to act with vigour, decision, and promptitude. His master not being in a situation to give orders, Diebitsch did not hesitate, on his own personal responsibility, to take such measures as the urgency of the case required. He was awaiting their effects; and he foresaw that the death, now hourly expected, might be the signal for a general outbreak. By an almost imperceptible sign, the Emperor bade his wife draw near. He once more tenderly pressed her hand, as if to bid her an eternal adieu. Then, relapsing into a lethargy, in a few moments he breathed his last sigh.

A passage from the scene of the revolt will interest the reader.

THE ÉMEUTE AT ST. PETERSBURGH.

The fire was now serious; the shot committed horrible ravages, though there were only ten discharges in all. The "Report" asserts that on the second discharge, the rebels dispersed, and were pursued by the chevalier guards into the Bassili Ostroff, an island on the other side the river, opposite the English quay; from thence they crossed the river, and were driven down the English quay, and the long street, Galernaia, parallel with it. There the further progress of many of them was stopped, and 500 prisoners were made on the spot. Numbers took refuge down bye-streets, in houses, and upon the frozen bed of the river. A large number forced their entrance into a house not far from the senate, and were there hemmed in and taken; others falling in their flight under the guns which were fired upon them, strewed the streets with their corpses. Many escaped to a distance, and, reckless and hopeless, joined gangs of robbers. About 150 individuals were seized during the night, and many

of the instigators of the revolt were arrested; some delivered themselves up to justice. The marines and the grenadiers repaired again to their barracks, and cast themselves on the mercy of the Emperor whom they had braved. The exact number of victims has never been ascertained; for the bodies were collected with all possible speed, and consigned to the waters at Neva, cast in through openings in the ice, hewn for that purpose, and covered from all eyes by a thick crust. The most moderate calculations spoke of 200 killed, with 700 or 800 taken prisoners. Many persons present on the spot, simply from curiosity, or, perhaps, in the hope of pillage, were swept down by the cannon. The Empress, during the continuance of the conflict, surrounded by the most distinguished ladies of the city, tremblingly awaited the issue. At the moment when Nicholas found himself compelled to open a fire upon the rebels, he had sent a message to inform her of the sad necessity; for he feared the effect upon her nerves, and wished to prepare her. When she heard the fire of the artillery, she cast herself upon her knees, bathed in tears, and remained in fervent prayer until they came to tell her that the revolt was crushed. At six o'clock the Emperor hastened to her side; a sad duty had kept him till then away. As soon as he had re-established the public peace, he went to visit, upon his dying-bed, the most illustrious victim of that terrible day—the Count Miloradovitch, and to thank him for his loyal efforts, and for the last service he had rendered to his country, at the price of his blood.

Turning to the other scene of the conspiracy, in the South, let us present an incident that occurred there, which will shew the aimlessness and the bad management that marked this affair.

THE CONSPIRATORS IN THE SOUTH.

Sergius, ever intrepid, but still uncertain in what direction he should march, gave the signal of departure on the 12th, at noon. It was doubtless the hope of rallying the other companies of his regiment that induced him to take the road to Broussiloff; whence he could have gained, according as circumstances required, Kief or Jitomir (Volhynia) in one day's march. Accordingly, he met on his road the first company of grenadiers, and the first of fusiliers in the village of Motovilofka. Both seemed disposed to follow him, thinking they should thereby remain faithful to the oath taken to the Emperor Constantine. The company of fusiliers did so without much hesitation; but an imprudent speech alarmed the grenadiers, to whom, according to his custom, Mouravieff could not help speaking of democracy and a republic. "In fact, comrades," said he, flippantly, "what need have we of Constantine? We can do without him as well as without the other. It is a republic we want. Come, let us all shout 'A republic for ever!'" The word liberty conveyed at least its own meaning; but that of republic was totally devoid of significance to these men, excellent in resisting, like a wall, the shock of war, and in standing the enemy's fire without flinching, but very bad politicians, and utterly ignorant of history: the word excited an extraordinary astonishment among them. Whilst they were ransacking their brains, vacant of all those notions which are heard in the streets of the more advanced countries in Europe, trying to get at the meaning of that singular word, an old grenadier of the company, leaning on the barrel of his gun, ventured to come to an explanation with his colonel. "We will shout 'A republic for ever!' if it so please your grace," said he; "but who, after all, is to be Czar?" "There is none in a republic." "Oh! in that case, your grace, it will not do in Russia!" The whole company was of the same opinion: "no matter about the republic," thought they, "but at all events we must have a Czar!" Mouravieff then perceived the blunder he had committed; but it was too late. Captain Kozloff, concealed in the ranks in a private's uniform, hastened to take advantage of it. He was a man of lofty stature, with a prepossessing exterior, and, like Mouravieff, beloved by the soldiers. He instantly began haranguing the company, repre-

sending to them that they were being imposed upon, and led astray to commit crimes; that Nicholas I. was the lawful Czar, and that there was no reason to doubt it; that to refuse obedience to him was to be wilfully blind to their welfare; that such an order could only be given by traitors. The grenadiers listened to him attentively, and were not slow in testifying their approbation. "Lead us on, Captain!" cried they all with one voice; "we will obey your orders!" And, taking him among them, they withstood all Mouravieff's solicitations; and to the threats of the factious they replied that they were not afraid of death. Mouravieff had too small a party, and was not sufficiently sure of his men, to risk a fight: with despair in his heart, and foreseeing that his endeavours would be unavailing, he allowed this chosen company to depart.

The severities exercised towards the criminals by no means answer to our notions of absolutism. Very few were condemned, some were sent to Siberia, others were fined, but the great bulk of them were pardoned. NICHOLAS himself presided at the first examination, of which the following characteristic anecdote is preserved.

THE EMPEROR AND THE SOLDIER.

It was scarcely day when Bestoujeff found himself almost alone in his presence; he whose eloquent and persuasive words had led to revolt half a regiment, to which he was himself a personal stranger, stood petrified before the proud eye of the sovereign, as he addressed him with the words, "General Bestoujeff was a faithful servant, but he has left behind him degenerate sons." When the Emperor asked him, "Where were you on the day of the 26th?" he replied, "Near your person, sire, and if you had shown any weakness I should have taken your life; but whilst your majesty exhibited such heroic bravery, I could not pursue my guilty purpose." "But," pursued the Emperor, "for such an enterprise as you undertook large resources and much aid were requisite,—on what did you count?" "Sire, things of this kind cannot be spoken of before witnesses." Without heeding the danger he incurred, Nicholas led the conspirator into a private cabinet, where they conversed a long time. We are not informed whether Bestoujeff descended to the meanness of denouncing his associates: but it is sure that he expressed himself with perfect frankness, to which his august auditor replied by expressions of regret that such a man was lost to society. The colonel departed with tears in his eyes; the conference had the effect of making him feel the enormity of his crime. The autocrat had listened to salutary truths though painful to hear; he had, moreover, found the same truths dispersed through various papers of the conspirators which had been seized.

It is a singular fact that on this occasion was introduced into Russia for the first time that sign of civilisation, the gibbet. For reasons not shewn, none of the usual Russian punishments were inflicted, but the criminals were condemned to be hanged. The sentence was carried into effect against a few only. The spectacle was witnessed by the author, who presents a description of it, which we extract.

AN EXECUTION IN ST. PETERSBURG.

On the 25th of July, workmen were employed, as early as two o'clock in the morning, to erect a gibbet large enough to contain five bodies in a row, on the rampart of the fortress opposite the small decayed wooden church dedicated to the Trinity, situated on the banks of the Neva, at the entrance of the quarter of the town called Old St. Petersburg. In this season, night in that northern latitude is, as the reader knows, only twilight prolonged till the dawn of morning, which is much less backward than in our regions. Every object, therefore, was, even at that early hour, perfectly distinguishable. A faint rolling of drums, and the distant notes of a few trumpets, were heard in several distinct parts of the town; for each regiment of the garrison was to send a single company to witness

the dismal scene that was to take place at sunrise. The hour of execution had been intentionally left in uncertainty. Accordingly, the city was still buried in sleep: a few spectators had arrived one after the other; but, even at the end of an hour, their number was hardly sufficient to line the military cordon which was placed between them and the actors in this terrible drama. Deep silence prevailed everywhere; and when the rolling of the drums of all the assembled detachments was at length heard, the rumbling sound died away without interrupting the tranquillity of the night or awakening a single echo. About three o'clock, the same drums announced the arrival of those among the culprits whose lives had been granted. After being stationed in groups in front of the rather extensive circle which covered the glacis before the rampart on which the gibbet was erected, and placed each in face of the corps to which he belonged, they were obliged to kneel down, after hearing the reading of the sentence. Their epaulets, badges, and uniforms were then taken from them, and a sword was broken over the head of each as a token of degradation; after which, being dressed in common grey capotes, they filed off before the gibbet, whilst a brazier, kindled close by, consumed their uniforms, the ensigns of their rank, and their badges of honour.

Scarcely had they re-entered the fortress by the usual door of communication, near which the instrument of death had been erected, when the five condemned criminals made their appearance upon the rampart. At the distance at which the public were placed, it would have been difficult to distinguish their features; besides which, they were muffled in grey capotes, the hoods of which concealed their faces. They ascended the platform and the benches, placed in front under the gibbet, one by one, in the order allotted to them by their sentence: Pestel first, occupying the right side, and Kakhofski the left. The fatal noose was then passed round their necks, and no sooner had the executioner stood aside than the platform fell from under their feet. Pestel and Kakhofski were strangled immediately; but death refused, as it were, to reach the three others placed between them. The spectators then beheld a horrible scene: the rope, being badly adjusted, slid over the hoods of those unfortunate men, who fell altogether into the hole under the scaffold, pell-mell with the trap-door and the benches. Horrible contusions must have been the consequence; but as this lamentable accident caused no alteration in their fate, for the Emperor was absent at Tsarsko-Sélo, and nobody ventured to grant a respite, they had to suffer the agony of death a second time. As soon as the platform was replaced, they were again brought under the gibbet. Although stunned at first by his fall, Ryleieff walked with a firm step, but could not help uttering this painful exclamation—"Must it be said that nothing succeeds with me, not even death!" According to some witnesses, he also exclaimed, "Accursed country! where they know neither how to plot, to judge, nor to hang!" but others attribute these words to Sergius Mouravieff-Apostol, who, like Ryleieff, courageously reascended the scaffold. Bestoujeff Rumine, doubtless more injured than the others, had not strength enough to support himself: it was necessary to carry him under the gibbet. A second time the fatal noose was placed round their necks, and this time without slipping. After a few seconds, a roll of the drums announced that human justice had been satisfied.

Of those exiled to Siberia, many were accompanied by their wives and families. There were cases of heroism scarcely inferior to that which has charmed every heart in the delightful fiction of *Elizabeth*. But here is displayed in real life that which the novelist feigned. What country and what age is wanting in instances! Certainly the most civilised land could produce no more delightful traits than the following of

WOMAN'S DEVOTION.

However, as we have said, the conspirators who expiated their crimes by receiving death on the

scaffold were not those who were the most to be pitied. Was not the most dreadful exile reserved for all the others? Stowed four together in télèges or two-wheeled carts, without any other seat than bundles of straw, fifty-two of them were immediately sent on their long and painful journey; and, in the most humble conveyance, passed through Novogorod, Tver, Moscow, Vladimir, Nyni-Novogorod, Kasan, Jekaterinenburg, and Tobolsk; often hooted by the people, against whose indignation the Cossacks who escorted them were even obliged sometimes to defend them. It was on the 5th of August that Troubetzkoi's family and that of Sergius Volkonski took a painful leave of these unfortunate men at the first stage beyond St. Petersburg, where the Emperor had permitted the interview to take place. Troubetzkoi was ill; but he departed at least with the consolatory certainty of being soon rejoined by his heroic wife; who was resolved not to forsake him in his misfortune, to share the ignominy and privations of his exile, and to undergo all the consequences of her resolution whatever they might be. Madame Alexander Mouravieff, Madame Nicéas Mouravieff, (whose maiden name was Tchernycheff,) Madame Naryschkin, (whose maiden name was Konovnitsyn,) likewise understood their duty as faithful companions; and it is well known that Prince Sergius Volkonski's charming wife (whose maiden name was Raiefski) deceived her parents, whom she adored, to perform it likewise. So joyfully did these noble women sacrifice themselves, that a foreigner, a travelling companion of one of them, heard this strange threat uttered by a mother in speaking to her somewhat petulant daughter, "Sophia, if you do not behave well, you shall not go to Siberia!" It is the duty of history to preserve the names of these voluntary exiles; for examples of self-abnegation, becoming less and less common every day, exalt noble sentiments in the souls of youth, and guard them from the cold shafts of selfishness, that almost universal disease of our age. In order to become inured to adversity, these ladies began a few weeks before their departure to accustom their delicate soft hands to the task of the most humble menials in their opulent establishments: laying aside their silks and velvet, they wore dresses of the most common materials, habituated their palate to the food of the people, and, in one word, renounced completely the comforts and luxury to which they had been accustomed ever since their childhood. "In the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread," was henceforth to be the lot of these virtuous women; they knew it, but their resolution never relaxed. They were informed that when once they had passed Irkoutsk they would be no longer in free possession of their baggage; that they would have nobody to wait upon them; that at the utmost, they would be allowed to engage one or two old convicts, male or female, who would consent to serve them for wages; that they could not return to Europe without the Emperor's permission; and that shame and degradation would ever prevent their children from quitting the land of exile. They knew all this, and yet they remained perfectly resigned.

With this we close a book whose title is much more attractive than its contents.

SCIENCE.

The Antidote for the Causes that abridge the Natural Form of Human Existence, and an Outline of the Organs and Functions subservient to Life. By JOEL PINNEY, Esq. London: Highley. 1847.

MR. PINNEY is a sensible man. Eschewing systems, he turns to Nature, and interrogates her as to the causes of disease, and as to the cures which she would prescribe. These he sets forth in plain and popular language, so that the least taught of those whom he addresses might understand him perfectly. His purpose is the benevolent one of teaching to his fellow-men the common-sense views of the

means to be adopted to keep the body and mind in health and vigour.

But his teachings are not new. His antidote is no discovery of this—it has been proclaimed in all ages, though with small success. Hitherto, mankind have felt a sort of aversion to simplicity in medicine; always have they preferred mystery, complexity, and a shew of profundity. Wherefore so? Because the plain speaker tells them that their cures must depend mainly upon themselves; that they must restrain their appetites, and subdue their tendencies to laziness. This is not so agreeable as a system that would dig remedies out of mines, or distil them in a laboratory; and therefore the quack who promises to cure by a potion, finds more favour than the philosopher who insists upon self-denial. Still, however, spite of quacks, Nature remains the same: her laws do not bend to men's wishes. Still, she will persist in the infliction of diseases and premature death: she will not be banished by a pill-box. There is no substitute in medicine for temperance and exercise, and all the books upon the topic of health that ever have been or ever will be written resolve themselves into these two little words. They are, in truth, a treatise and the sum of Mr. PINNEY's volume, only that Mr. PINNEY employs himself mainly in enforcing them by argument and by persuasion. Hear what a distinguished physician, Dr. JOHNSON, has said on this subject:—"Is it not within the power of man to observe and judge of the quantity and quality of his diet? To consume no more at his meals than Nature demands? To avoid inhaling a confined, impure, and otherwise unwholesome air? To take daily active exercise? To rise early in the morning, and to retire to rest early at night? To ensure the proper discharge of sensible and insensible perspiration, by exercise and daily ablutions of the body? To refrain from taking deleterious medicine, and to pay a strict regard to the alvine exonerations?"

The history of medicine is by no means flattering to science. It is questionable whether we really know more of diseases, their causes, and their cure, at this moment, than was known to GALEN; it is certain that diseases are quite as numerous, and in the aggregate as fatal. Every age has produced some new system of therapeutics, which the next age has banished; each has boasted in its turn of its cures, and they in their turn have been condemned as failures. Medicines themselves are the subjects of fashion. Is not this *positive proof* that medicine is yet unsettled,—in fact, that it has no established principles,—that it is little more than conjectural? "At this moment," says our author, "the opinions on the subject of treatment are almost as numerous as the practitioners themselves. Witness the mass of contradiction on the treatment of even one disease; viz. consumption. STOLL attributes its frequency to the introduction of bark. MOR-TON considers bark an effectual cure. REID ascribes the frequency of the disease to the use of mercury. BRILLONET asserts that it is curable by mercury only. RUSH says, that consumption is an inflammatory disease, and should be treated by bleeding, purging, cooling medicines, and starvation. SALVADORI says, it is a disease of debility, and should be treated by tonics, stimulating remedies, and a generous diet. GALEN recommended vinegar as the best preventive of consumption. DESSAULT and others assert that consumption is often brought on by taking vinegar to prevent obesity. BEDDOES recommended foxglove as a specific. Dr. PARR found foxglove more injurious in his practice than beneficial. Such are

the contradictory statements of medical men!" And yet there can be but one true theory of disease, and probably but few cures. Of the fallibility and inefficiency of the medical art none have been more conscious than medical men; many of whom have been honest enough to avow their conviction. A few of these will interest.

MEDICAL OPINIONS OF MEDICINE.

Dr. Akenside, himself a physician, has said, "Physicians, in despair of making medicine a science, have agreed to convert it into a trade." Sir Anthony Carlisle said, "that medicine was an art founded in conjecture and improved by murder; that he never could discover any rational principle in a physician's treatment of a case, and that therefore it was all guess-work."

The late Professor Gregory used often to declare in his class-room, "that ninety-nine out of one hundred medical facts were so many medical lies; and that medical doctrines were, for the most part, little better than stark staring nonsense." The late Dr. Hooper remarks in his writings, "Medicine is now defined the art of preventing and treating diseases; but formerly it was called the art of preserving health and curing diseases. The word cure is not used at present, because we possess no remedy capable of effecting an immediate cure. There is a great difference between treatment and cure; as many diseases are incurable, but are still proper subjects for treatment." It has often been objected to the physician or practitioner that he is unable satisfactorily to explain the performance of a single function, the phenomena of a single disease, or the operation of a single remedy. However humiliating the admission of such a truth may be, it cannot wholly be denied. But fully to account for the performance of one function, would be nearly paramount to the explanation of all; for all are governed by the same general laws, and subject to the same general causes.

We are told by the ingenious John Brown, that he "wasted more than twenty years in learning, teaching, and diligently scrutinizing every part of medicine." The first five passed away in hearing others, studying what he had heard, implicitly believing it, and entering upon the possession as a rich and valuable inheritance. His mode of employment the next five years was to explain more clearly the several particulars, to refine and give them a nicer polish. During the next equal space of time, because no part of it had succeeded to his mind, he became cold upon the subject, and, with many eminent men, even with the vulgar themselves, began to deplore the healing art as altogether uncertain and incomprehensible. Majendie, whose opinion is considered of much weight in Paris, says, "Consider for a moment the state in which medicine exists in the present day. Visit the different hospitals, and you will not fail to observe how physicians are divided between the most opposite systems, on the nature, on the seat, and even on the treatment of the most simple disease; yet each of those systems is supported by arguments more or less specious; each theory is based upon facts more or less certain."

The practical conclusion to be deduced from this is, that inasmuch as every step we depart from Nature leads to greater doubts and difficulties, it might be worth while, using the expressive sportsman's phrase to "Hark back," and take advice of Nature, who offers the added advantage of advice without fee.

And what would Nature tell us. To make a doctor's shop of the stomach? Can we swallow deadly poisons and believe that they can be harmless?

Dr. VICESIMUS KNOX has said "After all that has been said in commendation of the uncertain art of medicine, the most sensible physicians admit that it is to them uncertain whether it has done more good than harm to mankind; this fact being certain, that, in the hands of the young, the rash, the inexperienced, it is dreadfully destructive to the human race,

and that professional men do not usually prescribe for themselves."

It is but too evident that when they find particular drugs fail to effect the purposes for which they were thrown into the body, they then try another and another drug; so that, in truth, they adopt one evil to remove another. To do evil that good, or fancied good, may come, is a rule that ought never to be practised in morals, and much less in physic. The body, in all its parts and organs, is acknowledged to be governed by physical laws for its health and well being. Is it not against the divine commands to suspend those laws, which the faculty frequently do, in order to experiment with their individual drug systems? Who has a right either to abrogate those laws, or to oppose them?

Medical men convert the laws of mind and body into a field of physical suffering, calamity, and death, by their haphazard treatment. It cannot be denied that calomel has destroyed the constitutions of countless thousands. Dr. WILSON styles it "a remedy worse than the disease."

But we must not dwell too long on a theme upon which we could discourse without weariness through whole pages of THE CRITIC. We conclude with a passage that presents an admirable condensation of the author's very sensible arguments.

THE USES OF A KNOWLEDGE OF PHYSIOLOGY.

The antidote, therefore, which I have to propose is, that every person should make himself acquainted with the structure of his body, its organs and functions, so far as they relate to the means of preserving him in health; which knowledge will be found very easy of attainment by a careful perusal of the outline which will be laid down in the succeeding chapter. It may be asked, though a man were made acquainted with every bone, muscle, nerve, and organ, belonging to the human body, and even instructed in the various functions and use of each, what advantage has this knowledge conferred on him? I answer, the important advantage accruing from such an acquaintance will be, that it will guard him against practices which interfere with the due regulation of the machinery of life.

The man thus instructed would know, that health cannot exist unless the organs of the body are kept in perfect order; that continued excitement by excesses of any kind, subjects them to inevitable derangement; and that to surrender the frame to indolence and inactivity, depresses the energy of the circulation; causes the blood to creep languidly through the veins for want of pliability in the limbs; impedes the freedom and continuity of respiration; retards, impairs, and consequently weakens the whole system; and ultimately brings on disease. Men thus instructed would know, that too great a quantity of food and drink, acting upon organs enfeebled by inactive habits, would so overpower them, that the various channels would be found unequal to carry off the excess of matter thrown into them; and that the digestive organs, thus goaded into unnatural exertion, would be likely to give way under the pressure; the result being rupture of blood-vessels, apoplexy, paralysis, and other causes of sudden death.

They would know, that, in order to insure uninterrupted health, digestion must be perfectly performed, which can be the case only when reason rules the appetite, and never when appetite rules the reason. They would know the direct influence exercise has in the prolongation of life, and that the want of it invariably subjects to disease and suffering. They would know that what is generally called "high health" is the result of luxurious or excessive feeding, and is a condition verging on the borders of dangerous disease. They would know that the formal promenades is not the movement calculated to equalise and distribute the fluids to all parts of the body, with the vigour which nature requires; that it fails to bring into action as exercise ought to do, not only every limb and muscle,

but also to stimulate and assist all the organs of digestion; and that, for want of these efforts, the nourishment taken cannot be duly assimilated to the blood. The corpulent would know that they had become so from neglect of exercise, and from over-feeding, holding their lives in continual jeopardy. They would know how to reduce their weight and increase their strength; and that this could be effected only by an opposite style of living.

They would know the penalties of lying in bed enveloped in corrupted air for several hours beyond the time required by nature for repose; and that late sitting up at night exhausts the animal spirits by imposing upon them more duty than nature has allotted to them. They would know, that the numerous courses, variety of wines, ices, &c. with which our dinner-tables are loaded, overwhelm the powers of digestion; and that, as Addison truly says, "every morsel to a satisfied hunger is only a new labour to a tired digestion—every draught to him that has quenched his thirst is but a further quenching of nature." They would know, that, with the exception of contagious fevers and accidents, almost all diseases may be traced to dietetic errors; and that reason and free inquiry into the animal economy are the only effectual antidotes against keeping the appetite stimulated above the pitch of its natural cravings. They would know, that an irritable disposition, particularly if excited by trifles, or by over-exertion, or anxiety of mind, disturbs digestion infinitely more than any fatigue of body; and that it is impossible to maintain the physical processes in a natural and vigorous condition, if the mind be in a state of suffering; the energies of the one depending in so great a measure on the vigour and health of the other.

They would know, that the skin, the channel through which one of the most important excretions passes, throws off, or ought to throw off, from the body, by insensible perspiration, upwards of three pounds' weight in twenty-four hours; and that the principal causes that interrupt this essential discharge are, neglect of exercise, intemperance, and insufficient ablutions. They would know that an increase of diet necessarily occasions an increase of these discharges, without the power of increasing the capacity of the vessels for such purpose; a fact which would make it appear that matter must be retained in the system, and be productive of the same bad effects as though the ordinary quantity were not thrown off. Hence the stomach, the liver, and the brain become affected, and fevers and other dangerous complaints arise. They would know, that passing hours in the foetid air of midnight assemblies injures the animal economy in no ordinary degree; and that, to rise unrefreshed by sleep in the morning, restless, feverish, low-spirited, and dissatisfied, and without vigour to enter upon the duties of the day, must be the consequence of improprieties which had caused the works of the body to be impaired and deranged.

They would be conscious of the thousand casualties that flesh is heir to; and that their frame is their freehold, which they themselves may, at their will, either improve or dilapidate. They would know, that the heart, the lungs, the brain, the sanguiferous vessels, the nerves, the muscles, the organs of sight, of hearing, and of smell, the sense of taste, that of touch, the lymphatic system, the cutaneous exhalants, and the other organs and systems of the human body, cannot preserve their organisation, if they are supplied with nourishment improper in quality or quantity by the alimentary apparatus, or if there be a general neglect of action, exercise, pure air, &c. And, finally, the knowledge of all these would induce men to put their courage to the test, whether they would continue a life of indulgence and inconsideration, and consequently remain enemies to their own well-being; or resolve to follow the rules of nature, by which they might escape disease, and insure length of life. This, and nothing but this, is the medical knowledge really worthy of attainment.

There is a world of wisdom in this passage, and it is a fair specimen of the volume whence it is taken.

An Essay on the Diseases of the Jaws and their Treatment. By J. B. MITCHELL, M.D. London: Churchill.

THE entire subject of jaw diseases, as distinct from those that are purely dental, although the former are in most cases produced by the latter, is here treated with the confidence of one who has applied to long experience much careful reading and reflection. It is so written as to be intelligible to the non-medical reader.

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

Travels in the East. By CONSTANTINE TISCHENDORFF. Translated from the German by W. E. SHUCKARD. London, 1847.

TISCHENDORFF has an European reputation, as the author of various very learned researches in Biblical literature, and especially for his *Codex Ephraimi Rescriptus*, and *Codex Frederico Augustanus*. The travels before us were undertaken with the design of finding and personally inspecting the ancient manuscripts of the Scriptures. But the object is not made at all prominent in the volume, which exhibits no attempt to display learning. It is, in truth, nothing more than a plain, unadorned, lively, and amusing narrative of his adventures, with the remarks of a keen observer and the sentiments of a man of common sense, and as little of the mere scholar in his manner as if he had been but an ordinary man tramping about the world on an ordinary tour of recreation. Of course he sees things with German eyes, and talks of them in the German style, and applies to them the German philosophy; that is natural enough, and really gives its charm to the work, for who cares now-a-days for any travels that are not impressed with the individuality of the traveller? There is little novelty to be found in a mere description of places and peoples; we have read of these a hundred times, and they are as familiar as Fleet-street and its crowds. Nothing can interest us in a new picture of them but some peculiarity of aspect in which the traveller presents them. We do not care to know about Cairo or Jerusalem, or any such thronged highway of the earth; but we do desire to learn how they appeared to German eyes, or the impressions they made upon a philosopher's mind, or the feelings of a poet when visiting them. And here we have that individualism—German individuality—impressed on every page, and therefore is every page amusing.

TISCHENDORFF looks at all objects with the eye of a man of science, as well as of a scholar, and he uses his reason no less than his sight. Thus he finds

THE MANNA IN THE WILDERNESS.

Early on the 23rd, we broke up, shortly after the first ray had greeted us, and reached, in about an hour and a half, the Sheikh-valley with the celebrated manna-tamarisk, or, as it was there called, the darfa-tree. The Feiran-valley, indeed, possesses the same tamarisk, and in much greater profusion than in the Sheikh-valley; and the tamarisk plantations there were, as I have before said, completely enveloped in the peculiar odour of the manna; yet was I universally assured that the manna itself is exclusively collected from the tamarisks of the Sheikh-valley. I rejoiced exceedingly that I had arrived at the spot at the commencement of the time at which the formation of the manna takes place. The months of June and July are considered as this period; and I strayed eagerly from branch to branch to discover by my eye what was so apparent to the smell. How rejoiced I was upon shortly finding, upon the branches of one of the largest and tallest shrubs, excrescences hanging like glittering pearls or thick dew-drops! I broke off some of the finest, for I felt convinced that I held in my hand manna in the process of its formation.

These thickish lumps were clammy, and had the same powerful scent emitted by the shrub. I tasted it, and its flavour, as far as I could find a suitable comparison greatly resembles honey. On many shrubs I found small excrescences upon the twigs, which resembled at a distance those described; but close to them, I observed that they consisted of a round thick web, similar to what are found upon other shrubs, and which are but the cocoons of insects. The twigs, with the drops of manna, I placed in a tin-box; they are very well preserved; indeed, after several weeks of great heat, the drops appeared melted, and the whitish glitter had assumed a dark-brown hue. But at the very instant that I am writing, the twigs brought home by me still retain these brownish masses of manna, still feel clammy, and have also the complete smell they had in the Sheikh-valley.

My Bedouins told me that no manna had been collected for three years, but that this year a rich harvest was expected. In the month of July the Bedouins, and also the monks of St. Catharine's monastery, collect it in small leathern bags, chiefly from the ground, whither it drops from the branches on hot days. As it is not produced in very large quantities, it is sold tolerably dear, and chiefly to the pilgrims to Mecca and Mount Sinai. Yet do the Bedouins themselves sometimes indulge in it; they eat it spread upon bread like honey. Ehrenberg, who was during the summer in the Sheikh-valley, has given the most satisfactory account of the formation of manna. According to him, a small insect, which he calls *coccus manniparus*, punctures the twigs of the tamarisk, and the manna consists of its exuding juices. I, for my part, could discover nothing of this coccus, and only those small webs already alluded to indicated its existence. On the contrary, these tamarisks were surrounded by a large and beautiful bee, which made it difficult to approach them. If Ehrenberg's theory be correct, I believe that the tamarisks of the valley of Feiran possess the same capability of producing manna, and that only the coccus is wanting to enable them to yield it, and which might be, it would seem, easily enough conveyed there. What further confirms Ehrenberg's investigation is, that the medicinal manna of Calabria and Sicily exudes from ash-trees during the summer months from the puncture of a cicador.

But what gives this manna of the Sheikh-valley its great interest, is the recollection of the heavenly bread which fed the Israelites in the desert. And whatever may be objected to the comparison of the one with the other, I am, nevertheless, convinced that the present manna of the Sheikh-valley has intimate relation to the biblical manna; for this spot closely agrees with the spot where the Israelites first received manna. The book of Exodus, namely, places it near Rephidim, and Rephidim is nowhere else than between the Sheikh-valley and Sinai. And the biblical description of manna is also surprising (Exod. xvi. 31), "and its taste was like wafers made with honey;" as well as xvi. 21, "and when the sun waxed hot, it melted," perfectly agrees with the present manna; although that produced in Persia from an oriental kind of oak, and the manna which drops in Mesopotamia from the shrub gavan, more closely agrees with "white coriander seed" (Exod. xvi. 31). Indeed, there are varieties enough of it. The biblical manna fell during the night from heaven, and lay in the morning like dew upon the fields; on the Sabbath it did not fall, but on the previous day it fell in double quantity: after a short keeping maggots were produced in it. Besides, it had the property of sustaining a host of two millions for forty years. The statement of its falling has recalled what Aristotle says, that sometimes, on the rising of large stars, honey falls out of the air; a statement which Pliny further elucidates, in saying that this honey falls upon the rising of the Pleiades so thickly, that the leaves of the shrubs and the clothes of travellers become quite clammy with it. With this has been compared the account given by the monks at Tor, who in the morning frequently find traces of honey upon the roof of their monastery. Lastly, Wellstead has recently informed us that a Jewish rabbi told him, that in the desert of Damascus, at the present day even, a kind of

manna falls from the open sky. Truly, indeed, the tamarisk manna of Sinai is somewhat lessened in its importance, especially as, in the manna of the Israelites, we must not overlook the miracle. But does not the miracle retain its true character when we conceive the present manna, by the operations of Divine grace, deducible, on every side, from the preceding food of the Israelites? Were it not apparently too far-fetched, I should say that the exhalations rising from the groves of tamarisks, might very readily fall back again to the earth like dew; at least, this idea may be as admissible as that which surmises the present manna to be the enfeebled continuous result of the biblical heavenly bread.

TISCHENDORFF carefully examines the disputed and disputable question as to the precise site of Golgotha, and concludes that the weight of evidence is in favour of that which the Church of the Holy Sepulchre now covers. But let us turn to the more immediate purpose of his journey,—his researches after manuscripts. At Cairo he found nothing, save at the Convent of the Sinaïte Greeks, his visit to which is thus described:—

Upon asking to see the manuscripts, they told me that they possessed none at all, but that I should find many good ones on Mount Sinai. Their own library contained printed books only, which were entirely at my service. I then requested the cupboard full of books standing opposite to me to be opened. A full half hour may have elapsed before the key could be found, and the operation of opening accomplished. The libraries in these monasteries are mere ornaments. They occupy the place that ladies' what-nots do with us. I took several volumes out, and found nothing but manuscripts. Perfectly astonished at my discovery, I mentioned it to them; but with still greater astonishment they heard me and inspected them. "Manuscripts! manuscripts!" they reiterated, and seemed to entertain some doubt of it. An ancient manuscript was to them a perfect novelty, for they seemed to be acquainted with such things only by repute; and no sooner had they heard of their riches in manuscripts, than they began to dream of their inestimable value. After examining this bookcase, I inspected another in the chapel of the monastery, which proved to be still more productive. I returned again to this monastery, and a study was in the most friendly way provided for me. The results of these studies I shall elsewhere shew. But my discoveries in this library were my first joyful proofs of the incorrectness of the dissuasions made at home against my journey, founded upon the supposition that nothing new was to be discovered, after the exploration of so many who had preceded me. A man of widely celebrated name, and whose pursuits were the same as my own, had visited this monastery twenty years ago, and reports thus boldly upon it: "It contains no manuscripts of any literary interest."

Here is his account of another visit on the same errand to

THE MONASTERY OF MOUNT SINAI.

I was most anxious to see another remarkable MSS. of Sinai; this is a gospel said to have been extant in the palace of the emperor Theodosius. Cyrillus had not seen it, notwithstanding his function of librarian; but another brother, as well as Signor Petro, gave me a precise description of it. Thence, as well as from previous communications made to me about it at Cairo, the MSS. I conceive may be of the eleventh century. But all my exertions, both conciliatory and imperative, were in vain. The explanation ran that the MSS. were in the archiepiscopal chapel, whose comptroller, who had but recently taken office, was not to be found. Upon my return to Cairo, the bishop there assured me that it had been sent a few years before to Constantinople, to the archbishop, for the purpose of being copied. But even in Constantinople I found no trace of it. This was a genuine instance upon all sides of the *Græca fides*. Pointedly as I taxed the brotherhood with falsehood, they quietly submitted to the accusation. The prior is a native of Crete;

St. Paul's notorious character of the Cretes (the Cretes are always liars) he seems to verify in the present day. I now believe that the manuscript for which Lord Prudhoe offered some years ago two hundred and fifty pounds, and which was not accepted only because they could not agree about the division of the proceeds, has really been sold to the English. As it would be a disgrace to the monastery, they fancy they dare not admit it. But if it be in England, I wish Christian literature joy of the acquisition of the new treasure; for, that it may be speedily communicated to the real Christian church, is a wish towards whose fulfilment erudite men are doubtless already labouring.

Upon the whole, his labours were not very successful, and there is manifestly an enormous amount of pious fraud in this as in all other matters in which relics are concerned. Monkish assertions are to be taken with a liberal allowance for that large element in the faith they profess.

FICTION.

Faust: a Romance of the Secret Tribunals. By GEO. W. M. REYNOLDS. London, 1847. G. Vickers.

The Mysteries of London. By GEO. W. M. REYNOLDS. Vol. I. (Second Series.) London, 1847. G. Vickers.

It must be admitted that Mr. REYNOLDS is no inapt scholar. He may fairly dispute the palm with his master, EUGENE SUE, for almost all the qualities that have made the latter so popular. He is equally skilled in the art of horrifying; he knows how to tread upon the verge of the prurient, without actually trespassing beyond the boundary defined by the law; his facility of writing is as great; his invention is no less copious; he hits off character in low life with the same coarse but truthfulness; and he can frame a plot which will keep the reader in suspense through whole volumes without once losing the thread of his story, and yet continually branching off in pursuit of new personages and new incidents.

Both of the volumes before us have, we understand, enjoyed an enormous sale. Something of this is doubtless due to the woodcut illustrations, many of which are extremely clever; but more to Mr. REYNOLDS's ingenuity in adapting himself to the popular taste, which thirsts for something exciting; and that taste has so grown by what it has fed upon, that it has become palled to ordinary adventure and commonplace romance, and needs something extravagantly outrageous to make a sensation. What may be the effect of productions of this class upon the public mind is a question which the philosopher might usefully investigate. Our duty, as a critic and journalist, is to deal with the publications as they are, and with the popular taste as an existing fact. While the demand continues, there will be a supply; nor can we join in the condemnation pronounced by some of our critical brethren upon the writers who adapt themselves to their audiences. It is a rule which the censor equally observes with those he censures. There is no journalist of our day, be he ever so honest, who frankly and truly writes precisely his own opinions. All bend, more or less, to the tastes of their readers. If they did not, they would be ruined and starved; and martyrdom is a much finer thing to talk about than to suffer.

The Mysteries of London is a second series of a work, which was so successful a speculation that it counted its sale by hundreds of thousands. It is written with equal spirit of description, equal improbability of incident, and equal acquaintance with what is called "life" in the lower parts of the metropolis. *Faust* is a more imaginative creation, and is altogether less objectionable, if not more attractive. It is founded on the legend of that name, and Mr. REYNOLDS has really exhibited a great deal of skill in the manner in which he has made a long romance out of his brief materials. It is, like the other, cleverly illustrated.

POETRY AND THE DRAMA.

The Heart and the World. A Play in Five Acts. By WESTLAND MARSTON, Author of "The Patrician's Daughter," &c. London: Mitchell.

It is said that extremes meet—a saying fully verified in the somewhat fanciful title of the play before us—this *en passant*, for with the titles chosen by our authors we have nothing to do. A play in five acts is a literary work, and when it lies on the reviewer's table, it challenges literary criticism. In that sense we have taken up *The Heart and the World*. We are not, at any rate in this part of our columns, theatrical critics; we look at the *morale* without the *physique*, and it is not every play, even among the successful, which can bear the ordeal. The *mise en scène*, and the strong aids of histrionic action and elocution, are to the drama represented what rouge and gaslight are to the actors who represent it; much that is beauty behind the foot-lights would wane considerably in the cold ray of the lamp on our study-table.

We have read Mr. MARSTON's play with some attention; firstly, because it has been successful; secondly, because he has been successful before; and, specially, that every effort to uphold the legitimate Drama demands and deserves respect. We are not going to sketch out the plot of a play which has been acted several weeks at the Haymarket; we shall only comment on it. The charge of an ill-chosen tale, and of want of adventure, becomes almost a compliment to the skill of the dramatist, who, with these drawbacks, could make his play acceptable; but if the verdict of applause in the theatre has been unqualified, we are not able to repeat it in the library. Merit it has, unquestionably, but not literary eminence. We should call the author a clever playwright rather than a dramatic poet. Of the former character he has many essential components: much ease and facility, pleasing and natural transitions, good entrances and exits, and especial clearness of narrative. With these advantages, and the higher quality of clever dialogue, there is no reason why he should not look to a superior standing as a dramatist, but it must be with a better plot and more finished and consistent characters. Of his present performance, the first act is the best,—a very clever opening; through the others winds the clue of the distasteful story, and charity hopes that, however real a picture of the world be given, the heart finds no common likeness of all the *personæ*, with the exception of *Florence Delmar* (and even she hardly escapes an epidemic weakness of character). There is not one who is other than morally disqualified from sympathy. The nineteenth century has probably fully as little reason to compliment itself on a superiority to conventionalism as the seventeenth could have had, to which period the scene is carried back without any obvious necessity; but we trust there are no such English gentlemen as *Thornton* and *Sir George Halberton* (who, by an unfortunate and paradoxical inversion of consequence, become even less respectable by reformation). *Florence Delmar* is the sole interest of the drama, the redeeming angel of Mr. MARSTON's humanity, if *The Heart* stands for that noun of multitude, and of his play,—and she is a very pure and beautiful idea, though not a new one. The scenes are all good acting scenes; the serious ones, although they may interest an audience, by no means the best. These are written in verse, and Mr. MARSTON writes best in prose; his poetic diction is constrained, and sometimes stilted. One

young lady, desiring that another should be brought to her, says to a mutual friend, we might say mutual lover (being too deep is quite a characteristic peculiarity with all the leading persons),

Conduct this injured patience hither.

A strained and obsolete idiom, which we thought had perished with the ROWES and OTWAYS (albeit they employed such in ambitious tragedy), and the ominous race who imitated SHAKESPEARE. In prose have all the sterling comedies of modern days been written—in prose Mr. MARSTON is decidedly dramatic and successful; and comedy, serious and polished—that is, legitimate—is his forte. We have reviewed the play at some length, because we conceive the subject of the Drama, so called, to be of the highest literary, intellectual, and ethical importance. We hail the reaction of a more healthful and serious spirit, and honour each effort which art dedicates to its progress; but to bring this art to any perfection, the school in which alone it can flourish must be a severe one—the lecturer must not fear to be candid, nor the disciple despise correction. The dramatic artist, the clever dramatist, and the dramatic poet, will generally be distinctive characters; it is not often that nature prodigally endows one man with this trinal greatness.

We have said that Mr. MARSTON'S comedy is of the good old school. *Lady Parabout*, though but a profile, might have been touched by the brush of SHERIDAN. We conclude with what we think is the best passage of the poetic and serious cast.

Laura.—You love her yet?

Temple.—As deeply as I pray
A purer love may bless her. Florence, Heaven
Sow all thy path with joys as dear as thou
To eyes that fear to lose thee; be thy tears
But dews to nurture peace, and from its depths
Life's roughest sea sweep jewels to thy feet.

Laura.—You'll see them—at least to say farewell?

Temple.—See her! ay, while the head hath sight,
or memory

The power to bless that sight with what it loves;
But no more face to face. I've too much wronged
her

To bear—or hope it. You my friend, will speak
For me these parting words. Say that I sought
Her pardon and her blessing—that I bear
Her memory for my banner. It shall never,
No never, stoop to shame! You'll tell her this
And—

Laura.—Do you weep?

Temple.—Ah, now I feel 'twere bliss
Could I but hear her say—thou art forgiven!
She would not scorn my penitence.

Florence.—Oh free me!

No, no.
She would not, could not, does not, Vivian—No!
She honours—thanks thee.

There is a pretty sort of Epilogue, or what actors politely call, *Tag*.

There's no faith expressed
By bard but seeks for home the human breast;
'Tis in the heart the loveliest shapes Ideal
Demand their shrine. The good man makes them
Real—
Does deeds with Poetry's bright impulse rife,
And makes the dreams of fancy—truths of Life.

POLITICS AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.

Suggestions for a Domestic Currency, &c.
London, 1847. Wiley and Putnam.

THESE are the thoughts of a dweller in the backwoods of America upon the currency question of England. He suggests a plan for a domestic currency, which he believes will at once prevent such pressures and panics as that we have lately endured, without the no less ruinous consequences that in former times have resulted from too large issues of paper.

His scheme, however, has no novelty in fact, though some in form. He advocates a species of paper-money, to be regulated by the population,—at first equal to 10s. per head, subsequently to be increased to a ratio of 1l. per head; each county to issue its own notes, which are to be exchangeable at Central Institutions at London, Edinburgh, and Dublin. He would add the restraint of limiting them as legal tenders to one year from their date.

It will be obvious that there is nothing very new or very striking in this. It is only another form of the strange fallacy that money can be created at will, and that paper is wealth. The mistake the currency people make is this: they overlook the fact that, by coining notes, we do not increase wealth, but credit; we make a fictitious prosperity, which may last for a time, but which, at the first shock given to credit, crumbles into dust.

It may be said that we have seen as bad a state of things with a gold-currency as we could possibly have witnessed with a paper one. Not so. The late crisis has been destructive to the merchant princes, but it has worked comparatively small mischief to the rest of the community. Whereas the panic of '25 carried ruin into all classes. Why? The gold-currency has limited credit. Hence, only those have fallen who had availed themselves of the aspect of prosperity to obtain unlimited credit. The lesser men have been compelled to prudence by the prudence forced upon the banks and money-lenders. Otherwise it would have been, had the Birmingham doctrines been now in practical operation. There would have been the same shock to credit, the same run for gold, the same failures among the great; but in addition to that, we should have seen the undue credit that would have been given by the banks and discounters to the smaller traders still more suddenly contracted, and the ruin that has been almost confined to the great would have been shared by all classes.

Twist it which way we will, the proposal for issuing paper-money is one, or perhaps both, of two things. It contemplates an extension of credit, or a depreciation of the currency. But the extension of credit is not desirable. It is already too great among all classes, inducing reckless speculation with traders, and improvident expenditure with customers. The depreciation of the currency is in fact, by whatever fine name concealed, a contrivance for robbing creditors. Its effect is to confiscate a portion of the property of all capitalists, by enabling a man who has borrowed in sovereigns worth 20s. to pay in notes worth 18s. And this we believe to be the design as entertained by the greater portion of its advocates.

The whole subject of the currency, as connected with the recent crisis, is a tempting theme, but too long to be ventured upon here. Should THE CRITIC by increasing public favour grow to the bulk at which it aims, these, and such like topics of the day, shall form a prominent feature in its pages. At present, in our contracted limits, we must be content with merely noticing the publications that treat of them. Doubtless this pamphlet will interest those who adopt the paper-currency views, as it seeks to shew a method of converting their theory into practice.

A Letter to Lord John Russell on the Misgovernment of Ireland. By a FRIEND TO BRITISH CONNEXION. London, 1847. Hurst.

THE difficulty of governing Ireland is so great and so growing, that we turned with much interest to a pamphlet that implied a sort of promise to suggest a remedy. But the author is as much at sea as any of his predecessors. Like them, he num-

bers a host of grievances which have afflicted Ireland in years gone by, but all of which have ceased to exist, and yet the country is as uncivilised as ever. He can devise nothing better than the abolition of the Lord-Lieutenancy and local government. This may or may not be in itself a desirable thing, but as a cure for, or even as a palliative of, the present evils it is ridiculous.

Condition of the Working Classes, &c. By

H. G. COOPER. 1847. Groombridge.

MR. COOPER takes for his text the anomaly of the people wanting necessities whilst there are abundant means of producing them. He reasons very sensibly on this theme—endeavours to trace the causes—and having, as he thinks, found them, he proceeds to suggest the mode of their removal. His principal resource is the substitution of direct for indirect taxation,—the commutation of all other taxes for a property-tax; and we perfectly agree with him as to the benefits that would result from the change, but we are equally confident that it would be impracticable. People would look only on one side of the account. They would grumble at the quarterly demand for hard cash, without reflecting that it was saved twice over in the cost of all the commodities that contribute to luxury or use.

RELIGION.

Christianity; its Perfect Adaptation to the Mental, Moral, and Spiritual Nature of Man. By ATHANASE COQUEREL. Translated by the Rev. D. DAVISON, M.A. Pp. 484. Longmans.

THE value of this volume lies in the light it throws upon the condition of Protestantism in France. The author is one of its pastors, having had the care of the French Churches at Amsterdam for twelve years, and now, we believe, he is engaged in his pastoral duties at Paris. Although born in France, his parents were English; hence, perhaps, a large portion of his independence of thought. He is, indeed, imbued with the spirit of Protestantism,—that is, the principle that maintains the right and the duty of every man to form his own opinions, without reference to any other authority than the Scriptures. Holding this doctrine in its purity, M. COQUEREL objects to tests, and claims to think and speak as his own honest convictions are. He looks forward to the time as not far distant, when, in obedience to this principle, religion will sever herself wholly from secular alliance, by which she can suffer naught but debasement, and stand upon her own divine strength and majesty. His object in this volume is, he says, "to explain how a regular minister of the reformed church of France has a full right to compose and publish a treatise of Christian faith at variance with the Forty Articles of our old synods, without being bound in honour to send in his demission; nor, on the other hand, do I feel the slightest uneasiness at declaring my opposition to any other standard of faith but the word of God; this was one of my earliest convictions, and the only cause of my not entering the service of the Church of England. Many years ago, in a difficult moment of my life, I received a call to become minister of a newly-erected chapel in the island of Jersey; the trustees crossed the water, heard me preach in Paris, and made an honourable offer, which I accepted; but it was necessary to sign the Thirty-nine Articles, very similar, indeed, to the Forty of our synods. The trustees went over to England, applied to the bishop to dispense with the subscription; of course, it was more than the prelate could grant, and I remained a French clergyman."

He proceeds to give an interesting account of the present condition of the Protestant Church of France, of which we in England know so little that any authentic information about it at this time cannot but be acceptable. He says that:—"Towards the close of the French revolution, under the consular government, when Christian worship was resumed in France, Protestant worship was included in this new-born freedom; a law was passed known

under the name of the Law of Germinal (the month of its date), conferring civil liberty upon the Protestant communities and regulating their organisation. This law is silent as to the obligation of signing the articles in order to enter the ministry; and, what is still more to the purpose, this law has preserved and remedied several of our old institutions, but has not preserved the national synod, the supreme council of the church, the only body which had a right to draw up articles of faith for the whole community, and to urge subscription to a creed as the previous condition of receiving orders. The consequence is, that in the positive legal and irremediable absence of all ecclesiastical authority endowed with this power, not one single minister, since the year 1802 (and, in fact, long before), has been, or could be, called upon to sign the former creeds, which have not been legally revised (as was usual in every national synod) since the year 1660. The final result comes to this—that the Law of Germinal has made of the reformed church of France an assemblage of *Independent Presbyterian congregations*, each governed by its own consistory; still we form the National Protestant Establishment; our civil rights are sanctioned by the charter and the laws of the realm; an annual endowment is voted by the Legislature; we are *irremovable* from our situations; the pastors are freely elected by the several consistories, who inquire, as they see fit, into the doctrines of the candidates for a vacant place, and the investiture of our elections is confirmed by royal ordinances under the signature of a responsible minister, the Keeper of the Seals. To this Law of Germinal all the pastors of France have taken the oath. The force of circumstances, the course of political events, has calmly brought us to the very point which the Protestantism of Holland, and, later still, the Protestantism of Prussia, has reached by the wise enactments of their general assemblies—the preservation of the ancient creeds simply as venerable records of the science and piety of their fathers, and the enjoyment of a full freedom of examination and of faith."

Nor has this liberty been abused. He adds that "we are now upwards of 500 ministers in the Reformed Church of France, and the different shades of orthodoxy are certainly as various among us as with our brethren of the Lutheran communion; nevertheless, I am confident, that not one of us can be justly called a Rationalist in its genuine German sense; there is not one of us who does not consider the Scriptures as a positive revelation; not one of us who does not consider the sacraments with a deep religious awe; not one of us, from whose pulpit do not continually descend into the minds of the congregation the doctrines, that God is the Father of all;—Jesus Christ the only Redeemer;—man, the prodigal son, incapable by his own merit of working out his way home to his Creator; *judgment* an inevitable account, and *immortality* our real existence. Is this an abuse of theological independence; and is not this unity enough for all, save for those among us who, alas! will not allow room, in the Church of the Lord, for any other theology but their own? As to zeal and proselytism, to speak only of what I daily witness; a little before the day-break of our liberties, the whole Protestant congregation of Paris could assemble in the hall of the Dutch embassy, or a parlour of the Rue d'Thionville; this is only fifty years ago; the ministers of the Church of Paris, by the constancy of their professional labours, are now in the possession of three churches in the metropolis, where we preach alternately; the Oratoire, the largest of the three, is the largest Protestant church in France, and holds upwards of 2,000 hearers; the congregations are sometimes, I might say often, overflowing, to such a degree that people return home for want of room; on the Christmas and Easter solemnities, we reckon the communicants, both men and women, by hundreds; the number of confirmations is yearly increasing; a number of Roman Catholics constantly attend, the sacrament is never given, but Catholics, converted to our faith, are admitted; nothing can be more impressive, more striking, than the deep silence, the order, the solemnity of our public offices; and the private duties imposed on our clergy by this

regular increase of the Church is such, that we bend under the task and wonder where we find time to get through it; all this in the midst of two immense events most unfavourable to the progress of religion, and particularly of ours,—the Emperor's tremendous wars for twelve years, and the Restoration during fifteen; all this in less than half a century!"

His remarks on the relative state of Catholicism in England and France are curious. "Catholicism in England," he says, "is not so much a church as it is in France; but what there is of it is, far more than with us, a religion, a faith, a sect: this is to be accounted for by the clear and simple fact that Catholics, in England, are the minority; and it is a trite observation, made good by the history of almost all ages, that the fact of being in a minority is often an incentive to zeal and steadiness. In France, with the exception of some remote provinces where the ignorance of the lower classes is still incredible, and the influence of the clergy still powerful, Catholicism, in general, is a blot; a numberless majority of the nation has glided out of the Romish faith, without knowing where to find another; you hardly ever meet anywhere with a Romanist who, when he goes any length in religion, does not openly adopt the title of an enlightened Catholic. From the pulpit of my own church, with the full approbation of hundreds, I have dropt the phrase that *enlightened Catholics are anonymous Protestants*; and that we might now retaliate on Catholicism the old injurious denomination with which our Church was branded, when we were called *la Religion prétendue Réformée*; and to-day we may call the Church of Rome in France *la Religion prétendue Catholique*."

Acknowledging that dissent in England has done good service in the cause of Religion, he asserts that in France the differences among the Protestants are the most serious impediments to the progress of Protestantism. This is his argument, which looks plausible enough. He says, "Catholicism in France, very different (I again repeat) from what it is in England, has now but one single objection against Protestant faith, and the objection is—*Vous vous disputez*. This melancholy and reproachful word is now uttered against our church by Catholics of all classes from one end of the country to another. Yes: our deplorable divisions, brought to light on all sides, now form the only serious barrier to our progress. 'How can I become a Protestant, how can I insist on my wife and children becoming Protestants, though we are only Catholics by name, when, to enter Protestantism I must begin by choosing myself, and by calling on my family to choose between a number of different Protestant sects and congregations, more bitterly opposed to one another than they all are to the Church of Rome? It is much easier to remain where we have been, something or nothing, but at least without intestine warfare in our family, or in our worship.' This language, doleful to listen to and difficult to refute, is continually rending our ears. The fact comes simply to this, that if dissent may in some respects promote religion in a Protestant country, it can but injure the sacred cause when Protestantism forms the minority, and finds itself in the presence of such a Catholicism as we have in France. A divided minority resigns and cancels all hopes of rising to power. Nothing has given a more lamentable and indisputable proof of all these statements—nothing has put a more fatal bar to the prosperity of our churches and the success of our labours than the co-existence in France, of two Bible societies; for this species of discord there was not the slightest pretence, and it is what the Catholic cannot understand nor bear with. The fact, that we are at variance regarding the simple circulation of the Scriptures without note and comment—of the Scriptures, the common and only basis of our creeds—has done more harm to the religion of the Gospel in France than all other discords, and ought to have been avoided at any cost."

These extracts will suffice to shew the character of this volume; and they whom the subject interests will probably be tempted by the manner of its treatment to explore it further.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Doctor, &c. Vol. VII. London, 1847.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

In fulfilment of our promise to make a few more gleanings from this amusing volume before we part with the *Doctor* for ever, we turn again to the richly furnished pages, and the first we light upon is an essay

ON BEARDS.

Van Helmont tells us that Adam was created without a beard, but that after he had fallen and sinned, because of the sinful propensities which he derived from the fruit of the forbidden Tree, a beard was made part of his punishment and disgrace, bringing him thus into nearer resemblance with the beasts towards whom he had made his nature approximate; "*ut multorum quadrupedum compar, socius et similis esset, eorundem signaturam præ se ferret, quorum more ut salax, ita et vultum pilis hirtum ostenderet*." The same stigma was not inflicted upon Eve, because even in the fall she retained much of her original modesty, and therefore deserved no such opprobrious mark. Van Helmont observes also that no good Angel ever appears with a beard, and this, he says, is a capital sign by which Angels may be distinguished,—a matter of great importance to those who are in the habit of seeing them. He marvelled therefore that men should suppose the beard was given them for an ornament, when Angels abhor it, and when they see that they have it in common with he-goats. There must be something in his remark; for take the most beautiful Angel that ever painter designed, or engraver copied, put him on a beard, and the celestial character will be so entirely destroyed that the simple appendage of a tail will cacodemonize the Eudæmon. This being the belief of Van Helmont, who declares that he had profited more by reveries and visions than by study, though he had studied much and deeply, ought he, in conformity to his own belief, to have shaved or not? Much might be alleged on either side: for to wear the beard might seem in a person so persuaded, a visible sign of submission to the Almighty will, in thus openly bearing the badge of punishment, the mark of human degradation which the Almighty has been pleased to appoint: but, on the other hand, a shaven face might seem with equal propriety, and in like manner denote, a determination in the man to put off, as far as in him lay, this outward and visible sign of sin and shame, and thereby assert that fallen nature was in him regenerate.

The Doctor, as becomes his assumed calling, is energetic in praise of medicine and medical men. He did not share the scepticism of our times in relation to these topics. But let us be just to him. He based his approval of the constant attendance of the Physician not so much upon his faith in the powers of medicine as in a belief he had that most of men's ill-temperers are the consequence of ill-health, and that a pill might often more effectually cure a bad statesman than either priest or philosopher. Hear his discourse on this theme.

ORIGIN OF ILL TEMPER.

The Doctor, who was charitable in all his opinions, used to account and apologise for many of the errors of men by what he called the original sin of their constitution; using the term not theologically, but in a physico-philosophical sense. What an old French physician said concerning Charles VIII. was in entire accord with his speculations,—*ce corps étoit composé de mauvais pâte, et de matière cathareuse*. Men of hard hearts and heavy intellect, he said, were made of stony materials. For a drunkard, his qualifying censure was,—"*poor fellow! bibulous clay—bibulous clay!*" Your light-brained, light-hearted people, who are too giddy ever to be good, had not earth enough, he said, in their composition. Those upon whose ungrateful temper benefits were ill bestowed, and on whom the blessings of fortune were thrown away, he excused by saying that they were made from a

sandy soil ; and for Mammon's muck-worms,—their mould was taken from the dunghill. Mason the poet was a man of ill-natured politics, out of humour with his country till the French Revolution startled him and brought him into a better state of feeling. This however was not while the Doctor lived, and till that time he could see nothing but tyranny and injustice in the proceedings of the British Government, and nothing but slavery and ruin to come for the nation. These opinions were the effects of Whiggery acting upon a sour stomach and a saturnine constitution. To think ill of the present and augur worse for the future has long been accounted a proof of patriotism among those who by an illustrious antiphrasis call themselves patriots. "What the Romans scorned to do after the battle of Cannæ," said Lord Keeper Finch in one of his solid and eloquent speeches, "what the Venetians never did when they lost all their *terra firma*, that men are now taught to think a virtue and the sign of a wise and good man, *desperare de Republica* ; and all this in a time of as much justice and peace at home, as good laws for the security of religion and liberty, as good execution of these laws, as great plenty of trade and commerce abroad, and as likely a conjuncture of affairs for the continuance of these blessings to us, as ever nation prospered under." The Doctor, when he spoke of this part of Mason's character, explained it by saying that the elements had not been happily tempered in him—"cold and dry, Sir!" and then he shook his head and knit his brow with that sort of compassionate look which came naturally into his countenance when he was questioned concerning a patient whose state was unfavourable. But though he believed that many of our sins and propensities are bred in the bone, he disputed the other part of the proverb, and maintained that they might be got out of the flesh. And then generalizing with a rapidity worthy of Humboldt himself, he asserted that all political evils in modern ages and civilized states were mainly owing to a neglect of the medical art ;—and that there would not, and could not be so many distempers in the body politic, if the *prime vie* were but attended to with proper care ; an opinion in which he was fortified by the authority of Sir William Temple. Cervantes, according to the Doctor, clearly perceived this great truth, and went farther than Sir W. Temple, for he perceived also the practical application, though it was one of those truths which, because it might have been dangerous for him to propound them seriously, he was fain to bring forward in a comic guise, leaving it for the wise to discover his meaning, and for posterity to profit by it. He knew—(*Daniel logarithm*)—for what did not Cervantes know?—that if Philip II. had committed himself to the superintendence of a Physician instead of a Father Confessor, many of the crimes and miseries by which his reign is so infamously distinguished, might have been prevented. A man of his sad spirit and melancholy complexion to be dieted upon fish the whole forty days of Lent, two days in the week during the rest of the year, and on the eve of every holiday besides,—what could be expected but atrabilious thoughts and cold-blooded resolutions ? Therefore Cervantes appointed a Physician over Sancho in his Baratarian government : the humour of the scene was for all readers, the application for those who could penetrate beyond the veil, the benefit for happier ages when the art of Government should be better understood, and the science of medicine be raised to its proper station in the state. Shakespeare intended to convey the same political lesson when he said "take physic pomp!" He used the word pomp instead of power, cautiously, for in those days it was a perilous thing to meddle with matters of state.

Further on he adds,

It may have been the jest of a satirist that Dryden considered stewed prunes as the best means of putting his body into a state favourable for heroic composition ; but that odd person George Wither tells us of himself that he usually watched and fasted when he composed, that his spirit was lost if at such times he tasted meat or drink, and that if he took a glass of wine he could not write a verse :

—no wonder therefore that his verses were for the most part in a weak and watery vein. Father Paul Sarpi had a still more extraordinary custom ; it is not to an enemy, but to his friend and admirers that we are indebted for informing us with what care that excellent writer attended to physical circumstances as affecting his intellectual powers. For when he was either reading or writing alone, "his manner," says Sir Henry Wotton, "was to sit fenced with a castle of paper about his chair, and over head ; for he was of our Lord of St. Alban's opinion, that all air is predatory, and especially hurtful when the spirits are most employed." There should be a State Physician to the King, besides his physicians ordinary and extraordinary, —one whose sole business should be to watch over the royal health as connected with the discharge of the royal functions, a head keeper of the king's health. For the same reason there ought to be a physician for the Cabinet, a physician for the Privy Council, a physician for the Bench of Bishops, a physician for the twelve Judges, two for the House of Lords, four for the House of Commons, one for the Admiralty, one for the War Office, one for the Directors of the East-India Company (there was no Board of Control in the Doctor's days, or he would certainly have advised that a physician should be placed upon that establishment also) : one for the Lord Mayor, two for the Common Council, four for the Livery. (He was speaking in the days of Wilkes and Liberty.) How much mischief, said he, might have been prevented by cupping the Lord Mayor, blistering a few of the Aldermen, administering salts and manna to lower the pulse of civic patriotism, and keeping the city orators upon a low regimen for a week before every public meeting. Then in the Cabinet what evils might be averted by administering laxatives or corroborants as the case required. In the Lords and Commons, by clearing away bile, evacuating ill humours and occasionally by cutting for the simples.

In his all-pervading benevolence, the Doctor eloquently pleads the cause of a much persecuted, and, according to him, much maligned race.

A PLEA FOR RATS.

No other animal is placed in circumstances which tend so continually to sharpen its wits—(were I writing to the learned only, I should perhaps say to acuate its faculties, or to develope its intellectual powers)—as the rat, nor does any other appear to be of a more improvable nature. He is of most intelligent family, being related to the beaver. And in civilised countries he is not a wild creature, for he follows the progress of civilization, and adapts his own habits of life to it, so as to avail himself of its benefits. The "pampered goose" who, in "Pope's Essay," retorts upon man, and says that man was made for the use of geese, must have been forgetful of plucking-time, as well as ignorant of the rites that are celebrated in all old-fashioned families on St. Michael's day. But the rat might with more apparent reason support such an assertion. He is not mistaken in thinking that corn-stacks are as much for his use as for the farmers ; that barns and granaries are his winter magazines ; that the miller is his acting partner, the cheese-monger his purveyor, and the storekeeper his steward. He places himself in relation with man, not as his dependent like the dog, nor like the cat as his ally, nor like the sheep as his property, nor like the ox as his servant, nor like horse and ass as his slaves, nor like poultry who are to "come and be killed" when Mrs. Bond invites him ; but as his enemy, a bold borderer, a Johnny Armstrong or Rob Roy, who acknowledge no right of property in others, and live by spoil. Whosoever man goes, Rat follows, or accompanies him. Town or country are equally agreeable to him. He enters upon your house as a tenant at will (his own, not yours), works out for himself a covered way in your walls, ascends by it from one story to another, and leaving you the larger apartments, takes possession of the space between floor and ceiling, as an entresol for himself. There he has his parties, and his revels, and his gallopades (merry ones they are),

when you would be asleep, if it were not for the spirit with which the youth and belles of Rat-land keep up the ball over your head. And you are more fortunate than most of your neighbours, if he does not prepare for himself a mausoleum behind your chimney-piece or under your hearth-stone, retire into it when he is about to die, and very soon afford you full proof that though he may have lived like a hermit, his relics are not in the odour of sanctity. You have then the additional comfort of knowing that the spot so appropriated will henceforth be used either as a common cemetery, or a family-vault. In this respect, as in many others, nearer approaches are made to us by inferior creatures than are dreamt of in our philosophy. The adventurous merchant ships a cargo for some distant port, Rat goes with it. Great Britain plants a colony in Botany Bay, Van Dieman's Land, or at the Swan River, Rat takes the opportunity of colonizing also. Ships are sent out upon a voyage of discovery, Rat embarks as a volunteer. He doubled the stormy Cape with Diaz, arrived at Malabar in the first European vessel with Gama, discovered the new world with Columbus, and took possession of it at the same time, and circumnavigated the globe with Magellan and with Drake and with Cooke. The Doctor thought there was no creature to which you could trace back so many persons in civilized society by the indications which they afforded of habits acquired in their pre-natal professional education. In what other vehicle, during its ascent could the Archeus of the Sailor have acquired the innate courage, the constant presence of mind, and the inexhaustible resources which characterise a true seaman ? Through this link, too, on his progress towards humanity, the good soldier has past, who is brave, alert, and vigilant, cautious never to give his enemy an opportunity of advantage, and watchful not to lose the occasion that presents itself. From the Rat our philosopher traced the engineer, the miner, the lawyer, the thief, and the thief-taker,—that is, generally speaking : some of these might have pre-existed in the same state as moles and ferrets : but those who excelled in their respective professions had most probably been trained as rats. The judicious reader will do me the justice to observe that as I am only faithfully representing the opinions and fancies of my venerable friend, I add neither M.P., Dean, Bishop, nor Peer to the list, nor any of those public men who are known to hanker after candle-ends and cheese-parings.

Indeed it is a strange-disposed time :

But men may construe things after their fashion,
Clean from the purpose of the things themselves.

It behoves me to refrain more especially upon this subject from anything which the malicious might interpret as scandal : for the word itself *σκάνδαλον*, the Greek grammarians tell us, and the great Anglo-Latin lexicographer tells me, properly signifies that little piece of wood in a mouse-trap or pit-fall, which bears up the trap, and, being touched, lets it fall.

Here is an anecdote gleaned from some newspaper to which but for the particularity of names and dates we should have been inclined to prefix the title "strange if true." But as it is, we must more respectfully term it

INQUEST EXTRAORDINARY.

The following extraordinary investigation, cut out of a journal of the day, would have excited our Doctor's curiosity, and have led him on to remoter speculations. "On Tuesday afternoon an adjourned inquest was held at the Christchurch work-house, Boundary-row, Blackfriars-road, before Mr. R. Carter, on the body of Eliza Baker, aged 17, who was found drowned at the steps of Blackfriars-bridge, on Saturday morning, by a police constable. Mr. Peter Wood, an eating-house keeper in the Bermondsey New-road, near the Bricklayers' Arms, having seen a paragraph in one of the Sunday newspapers, that the body of a female had been taken out of the Thames on the previous day, and carried to the workhouse to be owned, and, from the description given, suspecting that it was the body of a young female who had lived in his service, but

who had been discharged by his wife on account of jealousy, he went to the workhouse and recognized the body of the unfortunate girl. He was very much agitated, and he cut off a lock of her hair, and kissed the corpse. He immediately went to an undertaker, and gave orders for the funeral. He then went to the deceased's parents, who reside in Adelaide-place, Whitecross-street, Cripplegate, and informed them of the melancholy fate of their daughter. They also went to the workhouse, and, on being shewn the body, were loud in their lamentations. On the jury having assembled on Monday evening, they proceeded to view the body of the deceased, and on their return, a number of witnesses were examined, mostly relations, who swore positively to the body. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased had lived with Mr. Wood as a servant for four months, but his wife being jealous, she was discharged about a month ago, since which time Mr. Wood had secretly supplied her with money, and kept her from want. Mrs. Baker, the mother of the deceased, and other relations, in giving their evidence, spoke in severe terms of the conduct of Mr. Wood, and said that they had no doubt but that he had seduced the unfortunate girl, which had caused her to commit suicide. The Jury appeared to be very indignant, and after five hours' deliberation, it was agreed to adjourn the case until Tuesday afternoon, when they re-assembled. Mr. Wood, the alleged seducer, was now present, but he was so overcome by his feelings at the melancholy occurrence, that nothing could be made of him; in fact, he was like a man in a state of stupefaction. Mrs. Wood, the wife, was called in; she is twenty-eight years older than her husband, and shook her head at him, but nothing was elicited from her, her passion completely overcoming her reason.—A Juryman. The more we dive into this affair the more mysterious it appears against Mr. Wood.—This remark was occasioned on account of some marks of violence on the body; there had been a violent blow on the nose, a black mark on the forehead, and a severe wound on the thigh. The jury were commencing to deliberate on their verdict, when a drayman in the employ of Messrs. Whitbread and Co. brewers, walked into the jury-room, and said that he wished to speak to the coroner and jury.—Mr. Carter. What is it you want?—Drayman. I comes to say, gentlemen, that Mrs. Baker's daughter, you are now holding an inquest on, is alive and in good health. The Coroner and Jury (in astonishment). What do you say?—Drayman. I'll swear that I met her to-day in the streets, and spoke to her.—The coroner, witnesses, and jury were all struck with amazement, and asked the drayman if he could bring Eliza Baker forward, which he undertook to do in a short time. In the interim the jury and witnesses went again to view the body of the deceased. Mr. Wood shed tears over the corpse, and was greatly affected, as well as her relations: the drayman's story was treated as nonsense, but the jury, although of the same opinion, were determined to await his return. In about a quarter of an hour the drayman returned, and introduced the real Eliza Baker, a fine-looking young woman, and in full health. To depict the astonishment of the relations and of Mr. Wood is totally impossible, and at first they were afraid to touch her. She at last went forward, and took Mr. Wood by the hand (who stood motionless), and exclaimed "How could you make such a mistake as to take another body for mine? Do you think I would commit such an act?" Mr. Wood could not reply, but fell senseless in a fit, and it was with great difficulty that seven men could hold him. After some time he recovered, and walked away, to the astonishment of every one, with Eliza Baker, leaving his wife in the jury-room. Several of the jurors remarked that they never saw such a strong likeness in their lives as there was between Eliza Baker and the deceased, which fully accounted for the mistake that the witnesses had made. The whole scene was most extraordinary, and the countenances of witnesses and jurymen it is impossible to describe. There was no evidence to prove who the deceased was: and the jury, after about eleven hours' investigation, returned a verdict of "Found

drowned, but by what means the deceased came into the water there is no evidence to prove."

And with this we must reluctantly close our notice. It will be long ere we find a volume so calculated to afford such pleasant gleanings for the readers of a library journal.

Elements of the British Constitution, &c. By the Rev. J. D. SCHOMBERG, A.B. Second Edition. London: Painter.

THIS volume was noticed by THE CRITIC at some length on its first appearance. Advantage has been taken of the demand for a new edition to enlarge it considerably. It is a brief, but accurate, outline of our constitution; a little too laudatory, perhaps, and repeating as axioms fallacies now abandoned by every man of common sense, such as, that the law is the perfection of reason, and so forth; but, upon the whole, it is faithful and an excellent book for the higher classes in schools. It is far better than DE LOLME.

The Council of Four. Edited by ARTHUR WALLBRIDGE. London: Ollivier.

MR. WALLBRIDGE was the author of a philosophical romance, entitled *Torrington Hall*, which imposed upon us, among others, as being the genuine description of an establishment for the insane; whereas it was only an imaginary sketch of one as, in the author's views, it ought to be, and with advanced science will become.

The very little book before us is founded on the game of *bouts rimés*. Mr. WALLBRIDGE had proposed to a party to give definitions instead of rhymes. Four of them joined in the play, and these pages contain the results. Thus a word, as "War," "Charity," &c. is proposed, or drawn for. Each player writes a definition of it, and the results of their united labours are read for the common benefit. Probably this, like *Torrington Hall*, is only a fiction to introduce Mr. WALLBRIDGE's own definitions. *N'importe*; we care not from whose brain they sprang; many of them are very clever. For instance, "WAR. 1. Congregational worship of the devil. 2. Evidence of man's origin from beasts. 3. Death driving a roaring trade. 4. Murder to music."—"NEWSPAPER. 1. Time's pupil and Time's teacher. 2. The fulcrum which Archimedes longed for. 3. A general who marshals events as they arrive, to fight the battles of intelligence. 4. A winding-sheet, in which parliamentary speeches are interred."—"IRELAND. A racehorse in harness. 2. England's poor relation. 3. The Acteon of nations torn to pieces by its own dogs. 4. A hot potatoe which John Bull has stolen, and will hold though it burn his fingers."—"PAUPER. 1. An animal so like a man as to make us feel uneasy. 2. A plaything for theoretical sympathy. 3. One of the crew thrown overboard to lighten the ship. 4. A waiter at the national table, who lives by what he gets from "the gentlemen." These specimens will suffice to shew the character of this brochure.

Sparks from the Anvil. By ELIHU BURRITT, M.A. London: Gilpin.

GOOD ELIHU BURRITT is actively proceeding in the fulfilment of his generous mission of preaching that universal brotherhood which constitutes practical Christianity. In this little pamphlet he addresses himself to all who speak the English tongue, and his language is that of peace and love. He intersperses teachings of the purest piety, of the most beautiful philanthropy, of the soundest common sense. These *Sparks from the Anvil* are a series of short papers, promptings of his energetic mind, thrown off from time to time as they occurred to him, and ranging through numerous topics, each of which is handled with homeliness of language, but with a vigour and force of truth that impress them deeply upon the mind. Temperance is often treated of. His favourite theme of perpetual brotherhood between England and America is repeated several times. Long may ELIHU BURRITT live to preach the Christianity of peace and love. All honour be his! He carries with him upon his pil-

grimage the sympathies of all good men, of all climes and countries, and the blessing of Heaven!

Popular Tumults, illustrative of the Effects of Social Ignorance. London, 1847. C. Cox.

THE twenty-first of "KNIGHT'S Monthly Volumes for All Readers" is as useful as any of the very useful series to which it belongs. Its purpose is to shew by example the evil effects of popular tumults upon the people themselves; their worthlessness for redress of grievances; the terrible punishments they carry in their train, not inflicted by human laws, but the laws of nature. The volume is, indeed, a remarkable one. A brief account is given of all the most famous popular tumults recorded in history, and it is wonderful to note the same invariable results attending them. The causes are traced to social ignorance. Let the working man be instructed and he will see where his true interest lies; indeed, he will be able to command the redress of real wrongs by the mere force of his moral position, before which we find that despots and aristocracies have yielded as invariably as a mere mob has been made to succumb to the might of the other portions of the community. The fact is, that without public opinion to back it, the physical strength of the multitude avails nothing, and public opinion is always forced to abandon those who seek to advance any cause, however intrinsically good, by lawlessness and violence. We trust this little volume, which illustrates these principles by facts gathered from all history, will be largely circulated among the working classes. It would be no unworthy outlay of the public money if it were reprinted in a still more compact form, and distributed gratuitously through the machinery of the unions to every house in the land.

DECORATIVE ART.

DECORATIVE ART-UNION.

As we report progress, we meet objections.

It has been urged that a subscription of half-a-guinea is too small; that it would be better to make it a guinea, and give some work of art to every subscriber. We are aware of the attractiveness of the latter course, but the lesser subscription would admit thousands to share the advantage of the Society, whom a guinea would exclude. Nor do we think it impossible that something may be secured to all the subscribers, even at that small subscription, though of this no pledge can be given, for the cost cannot be anticipated. But we may meet the wishes of those who prefer the higher subscription, and have the means, by establishing the rule that all holders of two shares—that is, subscribers of a guinea—shall have some work of art presented to them besides their double chance in the drawing. This will, we think, remove the difficulty, and secure the object of all parties. The kind offers of assistance that come to us from all parts of the country are most gratifying. Let each subscriber make it a business to explain the plan of the Society to his friends, and procure their names as subscribers and personally forward them to us, and the number necessary for asking the Charter of Incorporation will soon be obtained. But the canvasser must not be contented with mere expressions of approval, and promises of support. Subscribers' names are wanted now, to enable the Society to be formed. One subscriber now is worth a dozen who come in when it is fully established. The rejoinder to all expressions of approval should be, "If you think it a good thing, then at once send your promise to become a subscriber. Set down your name upon this paper with mine, and I will forward it." There are so many persons who support a thing when their support is no longer required, and it is established without them, that double exertion is

necessary to secure subscribers in this incipient stage, because, without a large body of them first obtained, it cannot come into legal existence at all.

The plan of Provincial Members of the Council has been very highly approved. We have secured one active and intelligent patron of art, who has accepted this office for the West Somerset District, EALES WHITE, Esq. of Taunton. We should be glad to hear of others willing to fill the like post in other divisions of counties, and in the very large towns and cities. To the members of the Provincial Council will be committed the duty of appointing their own agents in each town in their district for the receipt of subscribers and subscriptions, and the communications will be between the Council here and the members in the provinces, which latter will communicate with their agents, thus abridging labour by division, and securing the advantage of active friends in every part of the country, to advance the interests of the Society each within his own locality.

We must again call upon the friends of the proposed Society, as the first requisite of all, to procure, not promises merely, but the actual names of subscribers.

We repeat the whole list already enrolled. Next week, and thereafter, we shall give only those received since the last report.

- No. 1. Hardy, John, Thryberg Park, Rotherham.
2. Plaskett, Mrs. Gainsborough.
3. Joy, Thomas, Park-street, Oxford.
4. Spilsbury, George, Stafford.
- 5 and 6. Cox, Edward W., Temple.
7. Joy, Alfred, Park-street, Oxford.
8. White, Eales, Taunton.
9. Alexander, Thomas, Chippenham.
10. Alexander, Francis, ditto.
11. Alexander, John, ditto.
12. Alexander, Richard, ditto.
13. Taumer, William, ditto.
14. Thompson, Anthony, Whitehaven, paid 2s. 6d.
15. Moss, W. H., Hull.
16. Sutcliffe, Charles, Burnley, paid 1s.
17. Guiliver, George, Barnsley.
18. Crockford, John, 3, Upper Wellington-street.
19. Evers, G. A. T. jun. 2, Latymer-place, Hammersmith-road.
20. Davies, Thomas M. 8, Gerrard-street, Islington.
21. Evans, Charles, The Quarry, Stourbridge.
22. Gwynn, W. Cust, M.D. Sandbach.
23. Gosling, Frederick N. Worcester, paid 2s. 6d.
24. Gully, J. M. Great Malvern.
25. Ball, Edwin, Pershore.
- 26 and 27. Francis, William, Pershore.
28. Swallow, Martin, 7, Marchmont-street, paid 2s. 6d.
29. Cox, Robert, 3, St. John's-place, Albany-road.
30. Cox, R. Mrs. ditto.
31. Cox, William, 29, Essex-street.
32. Cox, Mrs. Hampstead.
33. Caldwell, S. M. Greenock.
34. Gould, William, ditto.
35. Ham, Frederick, King-street, Norwich.
36. Prue, William, Abergavenny.
37. Saare, John, 111, Minster-street, Reading, paid 1s.
38. Hick, Samuel, Blenheim-square, Leeds.
39. Hardy, Eliza, Miss, Thryberg Park.
40. Hardy, Charlotte, Miss, ditto.
41. Hardy, Mary Ann, Miss, ditto.
42. Hardy, G. F. Miss, ditto.
43. Bruerton, William, Wincanton.
44. Richards, Thomas, ditto.
45. Phillips, Thomas, ditto, paid 2s. 6d.
46. Rumsey, John, Somerton, Somersetshire.
47. Watts, T. E. (Honorary Secretary to the Art-Union,) Pershore, paid 2s. 6d.

ART.

TALK OF THE STUDIOS.

MR. C. R. LESLIE, R.A. is named as the successor of the late Mr. Howard in the office of Professor of Painting at the Royal Academy. Mr. Leslie has lectured on Raphael and some of the Dutch

masters, and introduced the results of his own practice in his art with great good sense, and what is rarer still, with a good deal that was original in what he said. The Dutch and Flemish schools have never been done justice to in the Royal Academy lectures.—The School of Design at Somerset House has been completely remodelled. The general direction, hitherto vested in the Board of Trade, has been confined to three persons in that office—Mr. Lefevre, Mr. Porter, and Mr. Northcote. The unwieldy council of all classes of persons has been supplanted by a council of three, consisting of Mr. Richmond, the painter; Sir R. Westmacott, the sculptor; and Mr. Ambrose Poynter, the architect. Mr. Wilson, the late director, has had assigned to him the superintendence of the provincial schools; and two of the late masters, Messrs. Townsend and Horsley, have been appointed professors in the school. There is to be a third professor, but the appointment has not yet been filled up. Messrs. Stevens and Le Jeune, two of the undermasters, have resigned.—Mr. Minasi, whose name has long been known as the most skilful pen-and-ink draftsman in Europe, has just completed a very highly-finished and beautiful portrait of Shakespeare, in the peculiar style of his art. The head bears a very strong resemblance to the most authentic portraits of the immortal bard. Underneath, the artist has drawn a very faithful copy of the house in which the poet was born; and has affixed, as a motto, the following line in Italian:—*Arde ancora la fiamma del tuo inesauribile genio*.—Mr. Watson Gordon's whole-length portrait of the Right Honourable the Earl of Dalhousie, which was painted during the noble earl's visit to Edinburgh, immediately previous to his departure for India, is about to be engraved. The original painting is intended for his lordship's collection at Dalhousie Castle.—A large engraving in the line manner, after a picture by Mr. Hill, associate of the Academy, by Mr. W. Richardson, has been published by Mr. Hill, of Princes-street, Edinburgh. It is perhaps as correct a view of Windsor Castle from the meadow on the Eton side of the river as has yet made its appearance. The engraving is not of a very high class of art, but is sufficiently meritorious to deserve commendation.—The lithographic plates of the cartoons exhibited some time back in Westminster Hall have just been published by the Messrs. Longmans, of Paternoster-row. They are an elegant addition to the class of prints now so much the fashion, and form an appropriate increase to the numerous portfolios of publications with which the shops of printsellers and the rooms of collectors abound. The prints are good of their kind, and if not of the very highest order of merit are sufficient to please the eye of the not too fastidious, and secure the approbation of the not too rigid judges of excellence. They are eleven in number.

ROYAL ACADEMY.—On Monday last Professor GREEN continued his discourses on anatomy, proceeding now from the skeleton to the consideration of the fleshy covering called muscle; describing the origin, insertion, and belly of the muscles, their perfection of contractile quality at rest, denominated Tone. By this contractile power it is that one bone is brought into proximity with another relatively fixed, acting like forces on levers,—as in holding a weight of one pound in the hand, with the forearm at right angles with the body, the flexors of the arm exert a force equal to nine pound, being an apparent loss of eight pounds, but which is compensated by the rapidity of the action. Exertion and use increase the size of individual muscles, as in the leg of the dancer, the arm of the blacksmith or the trained boxer. The action of the antagonist muscles, as exhibited in the statue of the Gladiator; superiority of the Elgin marbles in anatomical accuracy as compared with the sculpture of the antecedent era. The necessity of a diligent study of the body under dissection by the artist, acquiring thereby a thorough knowledge of its anatomy, yet avoiding in art alike its pedantic display and its concealment, degenerating to the rapid insipidity of stuffed waxwork. The muscular development of the

Laocoon was considered, indicating the half-stifled groan, afflicting in body and mind the man and the father. GLYCON's Hercules Farnese, as resting after some great achievement, the type of ponderous strength; the Hermes, that of pliancy, activity, and speed; the Apollo, of godlike form, tall to the utmost, without excess,—the corporeal expression of irresistible energy and divine art. That of Bacchus, displaying the transitional period betwixt youth and boyhood, in contours rounded to the precise limit compatible with the masculine character. The Venus, in length of trunk, the softened muscles flowing and blending with each other, giving the distinctive grace of female loveliness. Mr. GREEN concluded by urging upon the student that the great examples of the ancients were not to be servilely copied, but should act as the incentive to emulation, in the spirit in which they were conceived; he invited them to follow the pattern on which the human form is constructed, revealing the highest truth of form divested of all that is casual and arbitrary.

MUSIC.

MUSICAL CHIT-CHAT.

MR. FRASER, the tenor singer, who has been for some time in America, is about to return to this country, and has been engaged by Maddox for the Princess's.—By the death of the venerable Archbishop of York, a directorship of the Ancient Concerts becomes vacant.—On finally making up the accounts of the recent Gloucester Festival, the expenses were found to exceed the receipts by a sum approaching five hundred pounds.—A correspondent of the *Illustrated London News*, writing from Paris, announces that the *début* of Miss Birch has been postponed till she has further perfected herself in the French accent.—A new opera, by Maestro Coppola, has been represented at Palermo, taken from *Ossian*, called *Fingal*. The composer has attempted certain instrumental effects imitative of wind, rain, and other elements of the tempest, which proved too powerful for Palermitan ears, and were re-echoed by a storm of disapprobation.—At Venice Mlle. Lagrange, whose fine voice and style are well known in Parisian circles, has appeared in Verdi's *Joan d'Arc* with signal success. Pacini is writing an opera for the Carnival for this lady.—*I Due Foscari* has been revived at La Scala, and was chiefly remarkable for introducing a young tenor, named Negrini, with a superb voice, which reaches C in alt. with the greatest facility, and, if we are to credit the Milan papers, recalls the voice of Rubini to every hearer. Scarcely six months since Negrini was an optician in Parma, his native town.—In Madrid *Ernani* has been lately very favourably received,—a young vocalist, Mlle. Edelvira, taking the principal female part, Calzolari that of *Ernani*, our old acquaintance, Morelli, *Don Carlos*, and the now celebrated Miral at first represented the old *Duke de Sylva*, but since his abrupt exit from the capital, *par ordre supérieur*, this part has been assigned to another.—At Barcelona the opera of *Norma*, with Madame Rossi Caccia for the heroine, has created a perfect *furor*. From the first *cavatina* till the close, her performance was a series of triumphs. Mlle. Magroni as *Adalgisa*, Verger as *Polliane*, and Fouché as the *Arch-druid*, are also warmly spoken of by the *Fomento*, from which we extract this brief notice.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.—Little did the Committee of this Society anticipate, that during the interval between the announcement of *Elijah* and its performance, the master-spirit who called it into being would be taken from amongst us. The loss is, indeed, a heavy one. Millionaires, statesmen, nobles, and monarchs, die, and their death is heralded in picked newspaper phraseology; their virtues, real or imaginary, are magnified, like the mite in the microscope, to the dimensions of the elephant,—perhaps descend to the grave really unimpaired, and are succeeded, perchance, by more perfect competence. But who shall fill the place of departed genius, the only true great-

ness, dying truly regretted, leaving millions of fellow-creatures his legatees? We have, on many occasions, enjoyed the high pleasure of the society of MENDELSSOHN, and bear testimony to the fulness of his heart and head: he possessed, above all men, that distinctive characteristic of divine fire, "The poet's eye in a fine frenzy rolling;" courteous and kind; a man, in short, whom to know was to love and reverence. The Hall was appropriately hung with black, and the members of the orchestra responded to the feeling, by appearing in mourning; the wish of the Committee was also notified to the audience, to abstain from any demonstration of applause, or encores,—contributing much to the solemnity of the occasion and to the perfection of the oratorio. Of the work itself, it is unnecessary to speak, its grandeur and beauty having been the theme of the highest praise. The executive difficulty of the music precludes the hope of its perfection being developed by an amateur band, requiring, too, a conductor of first-rate abilities,—occasional unsteadiness is therefore not surprising; nevertheless, the performance was highly creditable. Madame CARADORE ALLAN, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. LOCKEY, and the rest of the singers, sustained the music allotted to them with great taste and feeling; the choruses were, certainly, taken slower than when MENDELSSOHN conducted, marring the effect of several of them. The oratorio was preceded by the impressive *Dead March in Saul*, a tribute justly due from the Society, in which MENDELSSOHN took great interest. The Committee have set on foot a subscription for a testimonial to his memory, to which her gracious MAJESTY and PRINCE ALBERT have already handsomely subscribed. We wish it well.

Wood's Edition of the Songs of Scotland. Edited by G. T. GRAHAM. Nos. VIII. and IX. Wood and Co.

THE new numbers of this very valuable and attractive work contain no less than sixteen of the most beautiful of the Songs of Scotland, arranged with pianoforte accompaniments, and their interest increased by notes, critical and historical, relating to the origins of the poems, and biographical sketches of their authors. Among the list before us are many of those which WILSON has made so popular.

THE DRAMA AND PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THEATRICAL CHRONICLE.—The first part of Mr. H. Taylor's *Philip van Artevelde*, adapted for stage representation, will be produced at the Princess's on Monday. The work itself has long been an English classic, and, according to report, the author has expressed great satisfaction at the manner in which the adaptation has been made. Mrs. Glover has been seriously indisposed for some days past. Great fears are entertained that she will not be able to resume her professional avocations, even should she recover from her present attack, which appears to be a prostration of her physical powers. She has left town, and will probably remain in the country during the winter. The last drama written by the late Mr. Richard Peake, entitled *Gabrielle; or, Italy and Ireland*, was produced on Thursday, at the Adelphi, with the whole strength of the company, and, we hear, with a view to be beneficial to the author's destitute family. The *Scornful Lady* of Beaumont and Fletcher has been adapted by Mr. Serle for representation at the Marylebone Theatre, and will be shortly produced. George Wieland died a few days since of consumption. He first appeared, when only five years old, at Sadler's Wells, for the benefit of Leclerc, the dancer. His talent at representing the stage-monkey is well known. Wieland was a member of the acting committee of the Drury Lane Theatrical Fund, and remarkable for acts of kindness and charity towards his professional brethren. Mrs. Keeley is about to transfer her services to the Adelphi. Herself and husband, according to the terms of their engagement, may be employed either at the Adelphi or the Haymarket.

HAYMARKET.—This theatre has produced a successful drama, entitled *The Roused Lion*. It looks as

if of French origin, but it has been cleverly adapted to English tastes. The story has been so well abstracted by one of our contemporaries of the daily press, that we cannot do better than borrow his sketch of it:—"Stanislas de Fonblanche is an old remnant of society during the Consulate and the Empire. He arrives in Paris on a visit to his godson and heir, Ernest, who, wishing to conceal his gaieties from the old gentleman, countermands the orders which he has given for a brilliant party of men of fashion, and of ladies quite as brilliant, but of reputation a trifle more exceptionable. A letter from one of the former falls into the hands of Stanislas, who thereby discovers the festivities which he has interrupted, and finds himself described as an "old mummy" by the writer, Hector Mauleon—(Mr. A. Wigan), who regrets his arrival, and the consequent failure of their expected sport. The reading of the letter is the prelude to the rousing of the "Lion," who, notwithstanding his advanced years and apparent feebleness, resolves to support and re-establish for himself the reputation for fashion and gallantry for which he had been pre-eminent in his youth, and revenge himself at the same time upon his maligner. He insists upon the arrangements for the party being proceeded with, and appears himself upon the occasion completely metamorphosed. In the place of the tottering and ill-dressed old man, he is again the gentleman and the courtier—a change which is marked by Mr. Webster with the eye and hand of an artist. Then commences the triumph of the old school over the new. The polished refinements and politesse of the one are admirably contrasted with the swaggering and superficial pretension of the other—as it is there represented—and considerably to the discomfiture of *La Jeune France*, in the person of Hector Mauleon. How the ancient gentleman beats him at every point where they are brought in contention—how he renders him ridiculous by his raillery; how he wins his mistress from him; and how, when challenged to the foils, he covers him with chalk and confusion, would require some space to relate—suffice that he fully achieves his revenge in the eyes of everybody, and, besides that, discovers among the guests one to whom he owes protection, and whom he marries to his heir." Every part is well sustained. Mrs. KEELEY even surpasses herself in the liveliness she throws into the character. Mr. WEBSTER's is a finished performance—a high effort of genius—and few men of his day have more real genius than Mr. WEBSTER, of which every year affords fresh proof. Mr. H. VANDENHOFF played the used-up dandy skilfully and without the too common fault of exaggeration. The piece was quite successful, and is repeated every night with great applause.

NECROLOGY.

J. B. PAPWORTH, ESQ.

At his residence, Park End, St. Neot's, on the 16th of June, whither he had retired after more than fifty years of professional practice, John Buonarroti Papworth, esq. late Vice-president of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Early in life his excellent judgment and kind heart acquired for him the intimacy of the leading artists, and also the confidence of many wealthy amateurs, as to the direction of their patronage, as well as to the decoration of their mansions. In this course he aided materially in introducing a tasteful style of modern furniture, which caused his selection by Government for the trust of forming and directing the Somerset-House School of Design. His works on garden and rural architecture, very favourably received by the public, were the results of his experience in landscape gardening, which he joined as a profession with his other art. Amongst the clients to whom he owed an extremely varied practice, he numbered several of the late branches of the royal family, especially the Princess Charlotte, and also the present King of Wurtemberg, from whom he, having designed the palace and English park at Kaunstadt, received the appointment of architect to his Majesty. His sons will have the satisfaction of remembering how highly Mr. Papworth was respected, not only by his friends and by his clients, but also by those severer judges, the members of his own profession, who presented him with a gratifying token of their esteem at the commencement of the present year. His works are:—"An Essay on the Causes of Dry Rot in Timber; with some Observations on the Cure of the Dry Rot by the admission of air into the parts of buildings affected with that disease." 1803. 4to. "Hints on Ornamental Gardening." 1834. 4to. "Hints on Rural Architecture."

ANDREW COMBE, M.D.

At Georgie Mill, near Edinburgh, on the 9th of August, aged 49, Andrew Combe, M.D. one of her Majesty's Physicians in Ordinary in Scotland, and corresponding member of the Imperial and Royal Society of Physicians of Vienna. He was born on the 27th of October, 1797, and educated at the university of his native city. In 1835 he was appointed Physician to the King of the Belgians, but in the following year he was compelled by ill-health to resign the situation. His works, the chief of which were—"The Principles of Physiology applied to the Preservation of Health;" "A Treatise on the Physiological and Moral Management of Infancy;" and "The Physiology of Digestion," have passed through many editions, and obtained a celebrity rarely equalled both in Europe and America. His first publication was, "Observations on Mental Derangement," printed in 1831. Just before his last attack of illness he was actively engaged in the preparation of a communication intended for insertion in the *Times* on a subject of the greatest moment within his peculiar branches of philanthropic inquiry—namely, the nature and causes of the ship fever, which has swept off within the last few months so many hundreds of the unfortunate Irish in their emigration to the United States. This has been published since his death in the *Times* of Sept. 17. Dr. Combe's brother Abraham, who died in 1827, made himself prominent as a Socialist, and the friend of Mr. Owen. Mr. George Combe, the eldest and only surviving member of the family, was in early life a successful advocate, and has distinguished himself as a phrenologist, his works in that science being esteemed next to those of Spurzheim. He is also the author of "Travels in the United States," published in 1841.

GEORGE WIELAND.

This well-known pantomimist died on Saturday of consumption, a disease under which he had been labouring for two years. Mr. Wieland had been on the stage since he was five years of age. He first appeared on the occasion of the benefit of Leclerc, at Sadler's Wells. He was a member of the acting committee of the Drury Lane Theatrical Fund. His kindness and charity will be regretted by the members of the profession, as his best endeavours were at all times used for the benefit of his less fortunate brethren.

JOURNAL OF SCIENCE, &c.

REPORT

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN SEWAGE MANURE COMPANY.

Continued from page 317.

With regard to the frequency of the application, there has not yet been time to collect much information, as the company has only been in operation nine months: in five instances the manure has been applied a second time.

The demand for the liquid manure is on the increase. Already three hundred acres have been manured for the Earl of Ellesmere and his tenants, and several hundred acres for other parties. As a financial operation, we have reason to believe, from the information afforded us, that it will prove eventually successful, but we have not thought it proper to enter into any particulars on that subject. A report of the operations of the company may shortly be looked for. The manure has been applied chiefly to grass-land. It has also been used on garden-ground with very marked effects, especially in the case of the more esculent vegetables.

Mr. Holland, under whose general direction and the patronage of Lord Ellesmere, the affairs of the company have been conducted, reports that the results upon meadow-land have been much less beneficial than they would have been had the farming of the district been in a more advanced position. Most of the fields which have been irrigated are very imperfectly drained, and are crowded with weeds and with grasses of inferior quality. But even upon such land, not only has the quantity of grass been largely increased, but its quality has been very decidedly improved. Were these fields brought into a proper state of cultivation, the beneficial effects of liquid manure irrigation would doubtless be much more apparent. In this opinion Mr. Patterson, the superintendent, who has had great experience in the use of liquid manure, both on uncultivated and highly cultivated land, perfectly coincides.

Mr. Holland further expresses a very strong conviction, that if a conduit for the sewage of Manchester were constructed along the bank of the canal, as

he suggested in his report, published by the Health-of-Towns Commission, for carrying out Mr. Chadwick's views in that district, such a conduit would form the best and cheapest source when liquid manure could be obtained for distribution by such apparatus as he is now using. Indeed, the construction of such a sewage conduit, and the use of moveable engines and pumps for the distribution of the liquid manure it conveys, was the original idea from which the present undertaking originated; and the present operations may probably prove introductory to the original scheme, which is, in many respects, analogous to the intended operations of the Metropolitan Sewage Manure Company.

In one instance, a fair comparative experiment was made of the effect of liquid manure and guano. One hundredweight of the Peruvian guano, dissolved in water, was substituted for a ton of the undiluted manure, and applied to a different part of the field. The superior effect of the liquid manure was pointed out by the proprietor of the ground, who was ignorant of the substitution.

The machinery of the company has been used for irrigation with water.

Your reporters are obliged to postpone some observations which they are desirous of making on the bearing of the facts they have collected on the plans and prospects of the "Metropolitan Sewage Manure Company," till the Board shall have authorised an analysis of the liquid of which they have taken care to secure a specimen.

(Signed) FRANCIS SHERBORN.
WILLIAM A. GUY, M.D.

September 20, 1847.

MR. SHERBORN'S REPORT.

I visited Mr. Smith, a farmer at Barton, to whose land it was stated the manure had been applied with decided success. Mr. Smith was not at home, but would send a report to the office. I then went to Lord Ellesmere's, at Worsley, on whose estate three hundred acres had been manured. I saw Mr. Fletcher, the agent, who went over part of the land. There was one field of forty acres, one half of which was manured with liquid, the remainder in the usual way, with dung. The irrigated part was decidedly the best in colour, and Mr. Fletcher stated the crop of hay on the part treated with liquid manure, at the cost of 1*l.* was quite equal to that grown on the part manured in the usual way, at a much larger expense; but the crop was not weighed.

I saw another piece of seventy acres that had been irrigated at 14*s.* 6*d.* per acre, being 10*s.* added to 4*s.* 6*d.* per acre, the place being nine miles distant from Manchester. An excellent crop of hay was mown; and a second application after mowing was made at 24*s.* 6*d.* per acre; the after-pasture is most abundant and most luxuriant.

I then visited the gardens where the liquid had been applied, and where all the vegetables were extraordinarily fine, but from the lateness of the season, I could not perceive much difference where the manure had been applied, all being good; but Mr. Mitchell, the head gardener, said, that after the application to asparagus, peas, beans, celery, and cabbages, the growth was quickened and the produce larger; that there could be no doubt of its advantages for garden purposes, and he should continue to use it. This was confirmed by the under-gardeners; but at this season of the year its effects are not so visible as to enable a stranger to determine its value for garden purposes; but the report of those who witnessed the application and saw its effects is perfectly satisfactory. The last observation will apply more or less to the grass-lands.

I had no opportunity of witnessing its effects on arable land, nearly the whole of this district being in pasture.

FRANCIS SHERBORN.

REPORT OF MR. SMITH.

Having had on the 21st and 22nd of July, 1847, thirteen acres of grass-land manured by the Manchester Irrigation Company with liquid, and having, by the request of Mr. Patterson, their manager, studied the result between those manured by him and that part that was not; and upon the former there was double the quantity, and of a much better quality. Also, there was some liquid fell upon the willows accidentally, and increased their growth a foot above the others. The result is so satisfactory to me, that I will apply it again when I can get it. Any one that doubts my statement, they are at liberty to call upon me and I will shew them the result. J. SMITH.

Barton, Sept. 22, 1847.

DR. MILLER'S REPORT.

To the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Sewage Manure Company.

SIR,—In conformity with the instructions I re-

ceived from the secretary to the company on the 21st of September, I have analysed the specimen of manure furnished through Dr. Guy, and which, I understand, is taken from the tank of the Manchester Liquid Manure Irrigation Company. The results of that analysis I beg now to lay before the Board of Directors.

The specimen, contained in a wine-quart, was a turbid liquid of a brown colour, an offensive odour, partly feculent and partly sulphuretted.

By filtration, a light mucous sediment was separated, amounting in the imperial gallon to 26*4*/₁₀ grains.

Of this, 18*4*/₁₀ were combustible.
8*0*/₁₀ fixed salts.

Upon evaporation, a brown residue was obtained from the filtered liquid, shewing an amount of matters in solution of

460*00*/₁₀ grains per gallon.

Of this, 136*00*/₁₀ were combustible.
324*00*/₁₀ fixed salts.

With the combustible matter which burnt with flame, the ammonia was also dissipated.

The following table embodies the results of my analysis of the matter in solution. The solids in suspension were too small in quantity to allow of detailed examination.

	Per gallon.	Per ton.
Organic matters	163 <i>12</i> / ₁₀	2309 <i>88</i> / ₁₀
Ammonia	32 <i>88</i> / ₁₀	736 <i>8</i> / ₁₀
Lime	14 <i>33</i> / ₁₀	3209 <i>92</i> / ₁₀
Magnesia	8 <i>64</i> / ₁₀	1935 <i>36</i> / ₁₀
Potash	21 <i>76</i> / ₁₀	4874 <i>24</i> / ₁₀
Phosphoric Acid	8 <i>00</i> / ₁₀	1792 <i>00</i> / ₁₀
Common Salt		
Carbonic Acid	271 <i>27</i> / ₁₀	60754 <i>48</i> / ₁₀
Sulphuric Acid		
Sulphuretted Hydrogen		
Combustible . . per gallon, 136; per ton, 30,464.		
Fixed Salts . . . per gallon, 324; per ton, 73,576.		

For the sake of comparison, we will assume that the sample of the Manchester manure above described, and that from the King's Scholars' Pond Sewer, on which I formerly reported as No. 1, are fair average specimens.

Taking the three most valuable of their constituents, we find that in the two samples they bear very nearly the following proportion to each other:—

	King's Scholars' Pond.	Manchester Liquid Manure
Ammonia	1	10
Potash	1	21
Phosphoric Acid	1	18

As the ammonia is by much the most valuable ingredient, we may employ it as a measure of the comparative value of the manure from the two sources. That of the Manchester Company will therefore possess a strength at least ten times as great as that furnished by the King's Scholars' Pond Sewer.

If, therefore, three tons be required at Manchester for manuring an acre of land—the quantity of liquid from the London sewer that would be requisite to effect the same purpose would be about thirty tons.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

WM. ALLEN MILLER, M.D., F.R.S.
Professor of Chemistry, King's College.
King's College, London, Oct. 1, 1847.
(To be continued.)

ETHERISATION SUPERSEDED.—Professor Simpson, of Edinburgh, has, in the trichloride of formyle, discovered an agent which more rapidly, pleasantly, and without communicating any offensive odour to the clothes of the patient, produces entire insensibility. No inhaler or instrument of any kind is necessary. A few drops put on a handkerchief and thus applied to the mouth and nostrils produces the desired effect in a few seconds. Last week Professor Simpson brought his discovery before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh.

FLOATING BEDS.—Some curious and interesting experiments were tried last week on the Serpentine-river, Hyde-park, to test the powers and buoyancy of a novel sort of hammock-beds or mattresses, of very simple construction, yet of importance to nautical people and passengers in ships, and intended for the preservation of lives at sea in cases of shipwreck. Captain Stevens and his son, and several gentlemen connected with naval matters, threw themselves into the water, into which the hammock-mattresses were also thrown. They got hold of them, and found no difficulty in placing themselves upon them, and floating comparatively high and dry by their assistance for a considerable time. The experiments took place early in the morning to avoid a crowd, but they were

nevertheless witnessed by many scientific persons and others.

ALLEN'S PHILOSOPHICAL CORN AND BUNION SHIELD.—It is a well-known fact that corns are produced by pressure of the boot or shoe. The toes appear to be the part most subject to these disagreeable companions. Mr. ALLEN has invented a shield which gives immediate relief, and the use of which, if persevered in, will eventually eradicate them. This he effects by removing the pressure from the corn, and thus causes it eventually to disappear. This is certainly a much more rational and satisfactory method of getting relief than either filing or cutting, which are always attended with danger. The shield should be used by all who have corns.—(See Advertisement.)

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

GOSSIP OF THE LITERARY WORLD.

THE *Athenæum* of Saturday last severely castigates the author of *Homes and Haunts of the British Poets*. The offence of Mr. Howitt is a very common one—that of announcing the unsold portion of a work as a new edition, the only alteration made being the substitution of the title-page by a new one, and the cancelling of a few pages in the body of the volume. We admit that Mr. Howitt's proceeding is sinful and unjust. But it is one which the bookmaking and bookselling world daily practise, and of which we had deemed readers to be perfectly cognisant. Indeed, the custom is so prevalent among "the trade," that we had regarded it as one of the many recognised abuses peculiar to the profession; therefore we cannot exactly countenance the *Athenæum's* very violent onslaught upon William Howitt. The skill it accredits to itself for discovering the trick, and the virtue into which it magnifies its courage in exposing, are mere moonshine. Our contemporary might long ago have had opportunities of making exposures of the kind. Its favourites are redolent of this, and many other, unfair resorts. Impartiality should be practised by a literary journal. The *Athenæum* is far from practising it. We may allude to its silence upon our very important and interesting project for establishing a Decorative Art-Union. Though it could discover matter for nearly a column of abuse in Mr. Howitt's very common sin, our great attempt elicits not a word, either of approval or of condemnation.—The cant about what we called "The Shakspeare House movement," is not yet at an end. The philanthropists are bewailing public apathy, abusing public laxity, and appealing to the public purse-strings. We wish these canters would cease their diatribes. If they want Shakspeare's old house they can have it by providing the purchase-money. It is evident that the nation cares nought for the dilapidated building, and the reasons wherefore we have before alluded to. The *Athenæum* of Saturday describes the proceedings of the Germans in regard to Schiller's house, and then ejaculates, "What a temple the Germans would have reared to Shakspeare had he been theirs in any nearer sense than as he belongs to the whole world!" Now we must deny that the example of Germany ought to be allowed to influence our actions. We are free to think and act as are the people of Weimar, and not all the efforts of the antiquaries and the *Athenæum* combined can make England a nation of relic-worshippers.—The chambers of the lamented Professor McCullagh have been searched, but no works or papers have been discovered. It is supposed that he destroyed all the productions of his twenty years' labour previous to committing suicide.—Professor Simpson, of the University of Edinburgh, has discovered a therapeutic agent in the place of the inhalation of ether, which is capable of being introduced with greater rapidity and success into the system, through the same extensive and powerful channel of pulmonary absorption. This more efficacious agent is chloroform, or the perchloride of Fosmyle. Its advantages over ether are so varied and palpable that the latter may be considered as already superseded. "It is a dense, limpid, colourless liquid, readily evaporating, and possessing an agreeable, fragrant fruit-like odour, and a saccharine pleasant taste." As an inhaled and anæsthetic

agent, it possesses over sulphuric ether the following advantages:—1. A much less quantity will produce the same effect. 2. A more rapid, complete, and generally more persistent action, with less preliminary excitement and tendency to exhilaration and talking. 3. The inhalation is far more agreeable and pleasant than that of ether. 4. As a smaller quantity is used, the application is less expensive, which becomes an important consideration if brought into general use. 5. Its perfume is not unpleasant, but the reverse, and more evanescent. 6 and 7. No particular instrument or inhaler is necessary; it is quite portable; and all that is required is to diffuse a little of the liquid upon a hollow-shaped sponge, or even the pocket handkerchief, and apply the same over the mouth and nostrils, so as to be fully inhaled. Professor Simpson has, since his discovery, applied it frequently to obstetric practice, and with entire success; but it was last week applied with eminent success by Professor Miller and Dr. Duncan to surgical operations.—Some valuable inedited and hitherto unknown letters of Queen Elizabeth to James VI. of Scotland, written between the years 1581 and 1594, and relative to the Armada, Babington's conspiracy, the trial of Mary Queen of Scots, and other public events, have lately been placed at the disposal of the Camden Society, for the purpose of publication, and will be put to press immediately. They are described as being strikingly characteristic of the royal writer, and constituting an interesting addition to the materials which we already possess for illustrating that eventful period of our national history.—The Board of Ordnance have, after repeated applications, awarded a pension of 20*l.* per annum to the widow of the late J. Marsh, whose test for the detection of minute quantities of arsenic and other discoveries in chemistry, had given to his name an European reputation.—We announce with regret the death of Mr. Matthew Coleman, of the War Office, a gentleman long known to the service as the editor of the *Army List*.—The editors of papers in Quebec have agreed not to avail themselves of the electric telegraph from Montreal, in consequence of its extravagant charges. This supplies a useful hint to the managers of some of the electric telegraphs on this side of the Atlantic.—It is proposed to erect by subscription, a monumental tablet to Cowper, in the Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey. It is designed to raise the monument "on the broad basis of his literary as well as of his Christian good report."—Dr. Campbell remarks that "Recent events in France have shewn that French novels have all but dissolved the bonds of French society; and Professor Potter, of the United States, has shewn that there, too, the French novels, with which that 'country is deluged, are the seeds of robbery, incendiarism, piracy, and midnight assassination.' Now, these self-same novels are filling England, and menacing it with the ruin of all that was once its glory, and is still its hope!"—The *Dumfries Standard* informs its readers, that the authorship of *Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation* is no longer a secret. Public opinion now universally, and, we believe, correctly, ascribes it to the younger of two literary brothers in Edinburgh; the conjoint proprietors and editors of a well-known popular weekly journal.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ancient (The) Story of the Old Dame and her Pig, sq. 16mo. 1s. swd.; coloured, 1s. 6d. swd.
Bartlett's (W. H.) The Christian in Palestine, 4to. 2*l.* 2s. cl.—Bible (The) Almanack and Evangelical Text Book, edited by the Rev. J. Cobbin, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Cantu's (C.) The Reformation in Europe, translated by F. Prandi, Vol. I. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.—Chambers's Miscellany of Useful and Entertaining Tracts, 12mo. 1s. bds.—Comic (The) Latin Grammar, with numerous illustrations, new edition, fcap. 8vo. 5s. cl.—Comer's (Miss) The Play Grammar, 12mo. 1s. swd.; 1s. 6d. cl.
Decorator's (The) Assistant, Vol. I. royal 8vo. 5s. cl.
Ernest Singleton; by the Author of Doctor Hookwell, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1*l.* 11s. 6d. bds.—Eton Scriptores Romani, new edition, 8vo. 7s. 6d. half-bound.—Evangelical Text Book for 1848, 12mo. 1s. cl.
Finden's Beauties of Moore, imperial 4to. 3*l.* 3s. morocco elegant.—Ditto atlas 4to. 5*l.* 5s. morocco elegant.
Gauguin's (Mrs.) Book of Purses, oblong 16mo. 6d. swd.—Gilbert's (J. M.) Lectures on the History and Principles of Ancient Commerce, cr. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.—Guide to the Ball-Room, new edit. for 1848, 32mo. 1s. swd.

Hand-Book of Humbug; by Two of the Joneses, 18mo. 1s. swd.—Honor; or the Story of the Brave Caspar and the Fair Annerl; by Clemens Brentano, with an Introduction by Appell, fcap. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. gilt.—Horticultural (The) Almanack for 1848, 12mo. 6d. swd.—Humphrey's (Rev. W. G.) Commentary on the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, 8vo. 7s. cl.
Ingram's (Rev. Dr.) Memorials of Oxford, 2nd edit. 2 vols. 8vo. 39s. cl.
Jack's (Lieut. Col.) Six Views of Kot Kangra and surrounding Scenery, 2*l.* 2s. in portfolio.
Kebble's (Rev. J.) Sermons, Academical and Occasional, 8vo. 12s. cl.
Lawrence's (E.) Kamaea; a Romantic Poem, 12mo. 5s. cl.—Little Tales for the Nursery, 12mo. 1s. swd.; 1s. 6d. cl.
Maule's (Rev. H.) Barrack Sermons, 2nd edit. 12mo. 2s. 6d. bds.—Miller's (Rev. T.) Gallery of Nature, imp. 8vo. 18s. cl.—Miller's (Thos.) Country Year-Book for 1848, post 8vo. 12s. morocco, gilt.
Nesbit's (A.) Complete Treatise on Practical Land-Surveying, 9th edit. with Plane Trigonometry and Railway Engineering, by T. Baker, 8vo. 14s. cl.
Oxford Pocket Classics, "Horace," 24mo. 2s. cl.—Ditto, "Sophocles," 24mo. 3s. cl.
Ramsey's (Rev. E. B.) Catechism for Young Persons, 4th edit. 18mo. 1s. 6d. swd.; 2s. cl.—Religion and Poetry, selected from the Poetical Works of the Rev. R. Montgomery, with an Introductory Essay by A. Gurney, 2nd edit. 12mo. 5s. cl.—Rimbauld's Nursery Rhymes, small 4to. 5s. cl.—Rimbauld's Christmas Carols, small 4to. 4s. cl.—Buff's (W.) Guide to the Turf for 1848, 12mo. 2s. 6d. swd.; 4s. 6d. roan tuck.
Scripture Parables, 12mo. 1s. swd.; 1s. 6d. cl.—Shelley's (P. B.) Works, new edit. royal 8vo. 15s. cl.—Smith's (Sir W. Sidney) Life and Correspondence, by J. Barrow, 2 vols. 8vo. 28s. cl.—Stanley's (Rev. A. P.) Sermons and Essays on the Apostolic Age, 8vo. 12s. cl.—Stories of the Elements, 12mo. 1s. swd.; 1s. 6d. cl.—Sturgeon's (C.) The Practice before the County Courts in Insolvency, 1st and 2nd Victoria, cap. 110, 12mo. 5s. bds.
Taylor's (J.) Rules and Exercises for Holy Dying—"The Practical Christian's Library," 18mo. 2s. cl.—Taylor's (J.) Rules and Exercises for Holy Living and Dying, 2 vols. demy 8vo. 21s. cl.—Taylor's (J.) Rules and Exercises for Holy Living and Dying, 1 vol. 18mo. 4s. cloth, gilt edges.—Toley's (Rev. E. W.) Twelve Sermons on the Liturgy of the Church of England, 2nd edit. 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.
Van Butchell's Facts and Observations relative to Piles and Fistula, 10th edit. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.—Vaughan's (H.) Sacred Poems and Private Ejaculations, with a Memoir, by the Rev. H. F. Lyte, fcap. 8vo. 5s. cl.—Village (The) School, 12mo. 1s. swd. 1s. 6d. cl.—Voice (A) from the Far Interior of Australia, by a Bushman, 12mo. 1s. 6d. swd.
Wallbridge's (A.) the Council of Four—a Game at Definitions, 32mo. 1s. 6d. cl.—Woodward's (Rev. H.) Short Readings for Family Prayers, Essays, and Sermons, 8vo. 12s. cl.—Whately's (Archbishop) Lectures on Political Economy, 3rd edit. 8vo. 8s. cl.—Wordsworth's (C.) Theophilus Anglicanus, 5th edit. crown 8vo. 8s. 6d. cl.

BOOKS WANTED TO PURCHASE.

No charge is made for insertion in this list. Apply to the Publisher of THE CRITIC, stating prices.
The Remains of the Worship of Strapius, 4to. plates.

WIT AND WISDOM OF THE WEEK.

ALLURING INVITATION.—The following tempting invitation to "come and be buried" has been issued by an Edinburgh cemetery company. The taste and feeling with which the advertisement is concocted is perhaps unparalleled:—

"THE CEMETERY.

"'Fools that we are,
Never to think of death and of ourselves
At the same time; as if to learn to die
Were no concern of ours!'"

The public, and especially parties having deceased relatives to inter, are respectfully invited to visit the grounds, which are allowed by competent judges to possess advantages superior to any other place of sepulture in this country. The well-chosen site of the cemetery, combined with the fine old trees covering the sloping bank, and the gentle murmur of the river gliding at its base, induce that stillness, seclusion, and solemnity, so desirable when

"'Slow moving o'er the prostrate dead,'"

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Dancing will commence at Ten.

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The Supper, under the direction of Mr. G. FAYNE, will be served at One o'clock.

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. The Publisher feels very grateful for the encouragement which has been bestowed upon this Work. But the public patronage has taken a direction which points out the desirableness of a change in the plan of its conduct. It was expected that the principal sale would have been in Weekly Numbers; and, consequently, each number (with two exceptions, where a second number was necessary) has been devoted to a single subject, and the text and cuts have been arranged with reference to the completion of a sheet. The principal sale, however, has been in Monthly Parts; and this circumstance has determined the Publisher to confine the future issue to Parts, and to make each Part more attractive by the substitution of a FIRST-RATE LINE ENGRAVING, by some Artist of the highest excellence, for a proportionate quantity of Letter-press. In this way, the future Parts will be devoted each to some one important locality, or to several localities of cognate interest. For example, Part VII. to appear on the 1st of January, 1848, will comprise WINDSOR, with a line Engraving of the Castle, by Mr. PRIOR, from an original view on the Thames; and many Woodcuts, from sketches by Mr. HARVEY. Part VIII. will contain OXFORD, with the same variety of Illustrations, from drawings by Mr. THORNE; and Part IX. EDINBURGH, treated in a similar manner. By this arrangement, the entire Series will attain a much higher character as a work of Art, while the visitor to each particular locality will have a more complete and valuable companion, both as a pictorial and literary Sketch-Book, than could be presented to him in a single sheet.

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